

# **EXHIBIT A**

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

=====X  
**YONATAN WEISS,**

**Plaintiff,**

**-against-**

**NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL  
GROUP, FNL MEDIA LLC, and  
BENJAMIN WEY,**

**Defendants.**  
-----X

**Docket No.:**

**COMPLAINT**

**PLAINTIFF DEMANDS A  
TRIAL BY JURY**

Plaintiff **YONATAN WEISS**, by his attorneys **MORELLI ALTERS RATNER, LLP**,  
complaining of the Defendants herein, upon information and belief respectfully alleges as follows:

1. Plaintiff **YONATAN "YONI" WEISS** is a 24-year-old man who resides in the City,  
County and State of New York.
2. Commencing approximately October 2013 until his wrongful termination on or about June  
2, 2014, Plaintiff **YONI WEISS** was employed in Manhattan as a graphic designer by Defendants  
**NYG CAPITAL LLC** doing business as **NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA  
LLC**.
3. At all times hereinafter mentioned, Defendant **NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** was and  
remains a leading U.S. and Asia-based strategic market entry advisory, venture capital and private  
equity investment group on Wall Street that services clients (including Fortune 500 companies and  
governments) worldwide. Defendant **NYG CAPITAL LLC** is a company organized and  
existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of New York, with its principal place of  
business in the City, County and State of New York.

4. With access to approximately \$1 billion in investment capital, Defendant **NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** has led or participated in more than 250 projects worldwide. Defendant **NYG CAPITAL LLC** d/b/a **NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** (hereinafter, referred collectively to as “**NYGG**”) employs approximately 110 people globally, including approximately 51 people throughout the United States, approximately seven of whom work in its Manhattan headquarters. Defendant **NYGG**’s annual revenues exceed \$25 million.

5. At all times hereinafter mentioned, Defendant **FNL MEDIA LLC** (“**FNL MEDIA**”) was and remains a division of and/or the wholly-owned subsidiary of Defendant **NYGG**. Defendant **FNL MEDIA LLC** is a company organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of New York, with its principal place of business in the City, County and State of New York.

6. Defendant **FNL MEDIA** is the publisher of TheBlot Magazine, a digital publication. TheBlot Magazine claims it “brings traditional journalism to the modern day with bright, witty, opinionated content.” TheBlot Magazine further explains: “Our name pays homage to that ubiquitous mark found splattered on the desks of old-world authors, a symbol that evokes the power of the written word.” TheBlot Magazine has at least six employees.

7. Throughout Plaintiff’s employment, Defendants **NYGG** and **FNL MEDIA LLC** operated as a single or joint enterprise. Throughout Plaintiff’s employment, Defendants **NYGG** and **FNL MEDIA** shared the same offices on Wall Street, as well as the same management, ownership, and interrelated operations.

8. Throughout Plaintiff’s employment, Defendants **NYGG** and **FNL MEDIA LLC** operated as Plaintiff **YONI WEISS**’s single or joint employer. While Plaintiff **YONI WEISS** was formally employed by Defendant **FNL MEDIA**, throughout his employment with Defendant **FNL MEDIA**, Plaintiff **YONI WEISS** regularly attended weekly strategy meetings for TheBlot

Magazine with various **NYGG** employees and executives, including Director of Corporate Communications Hanna Bouveng, General Counsel James Baxter, and Defendant CEO/ Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY**, as well as various Defendant **FNL MEDIA** employees, including Blot Editor-in-Chief Alicia Lu. Plaintiff **YONI WEISS**'s assignments included investigating, chronicling and reporting on Defendant **NYGG**'s business deals and relationships. Throughout Plaintiff's employment with Defendant **FNL MEDIA**, he was also constructively employed by Defendant **NYGG**.

9. Commencing approximately 2002 through the present, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** (f/k/a Benjamin Wei and Tianbing Wei) was and remains Chief Executive Officer of Defendant **NYGG**, the highest-ranking executive, manager, supervisor and employee of Defendant **NYGG**.

10. Throughout Plaintiff's employment, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** was also Publisher and Owner of TheBlot Magazine, the highest-ranking executive, manager, supervisor and employee of Defendant **FNL MEDIA**. As Publisher and Owner of TheBlot Magazine, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** dictated and controlled all content disseminated by TheBlot: nothing was published by Defendant **FNL MEDIA** without **WEY**'s prior approval.

11. Throughout Plaintiff's employment, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** routinely boasted: "I'm a very, very powerful man" and "I'm one of the top dogs on Wall Street!" **WEY**, who is approximately in his mid-40s, is married to lawyer Michaela Wey (an employee of Defendant **NYGG** and of Defendant **FNL MEDIA**), and the father of three children. He is also a virulent sexual harasser and stalker. Defendant CEO/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY**'s office is located in Manhattan at Defendant **NYGG**'s and Defendant **FNL MEDIA**'s shared headquarters. **BENJAMIN WEY**'s residence is also in Manhattan.

12. Throughout Plaintiff's employment, James N. Baxter, Esq. was Executive Chairman and General Counsel of Defendant **NYGG**, an executive, manager, supervisor and employee of Defendant **NYGG**. Throughout Plaintiff's employment, James N. Baxter, Esq. was also General Counsel for Defendant **FNL MEDIA**. Executive Chairman and General Counsel James Baxter's office is located in Manhattan at Defendant **NYGG**'s and Defendant **FNL MEDIA**'s shared headquarters.

13. Throughout Plaintiff's employment, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY**'s wife Michaela Wey was responsible for bookkeeping, accounting and payroll for Defendant **NYGG** and Defendant **FNL MEDIA**. Throughout Plaintiff's employment, Michaela Wey was and remains an executive, manager, supervisor and/or employee of Defendant **NYGG** and of Defendant **FNL MEDIA**. Michaela Wey's office is located in Manhattan at Defendant **NYGG**'s and Defendant **FNL MEDIA**'s shared headquarters.

14. At all times material to this Complaint, the individual officers, directors, executives, managers, supervisors, employees and/or agents mentioned herein, acted within the scope of their duties as officers, directors, executives, managers, supervisors, employees and/or agents of Defendants **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and Defendant **FNL MEDIA LLC**. Defendant **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and Defendant **FNL MEDIA LLC** shall hereinafter be referred collectively to as "**NYGG**."

15. Jurisdiction of the subject matter of this action is established in this Court under Title VII of the United States Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Title 42 of the United States Code, Section 2000-e(f)(3). Plaintiff first filed these charges before the EEOC, and received his Notice of Right-to-Sue on October 20, 2014. This is the proper venue for this action under Title VII of the United States Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Title 42 of the United States Code, Section

2000 *et seq.*, in that unlawful acts alleged herein were committed within this Court's jurisdiction.

### **GENERAL ALLEGATIONS OF RETALIATION**

16. This lawsuit arises out of Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY**'s systematic subjection of Plaintiff **YONI WEISS**'s co-worker Hanna Bouveng to disgusting and degrading *quid pro quo* sexual harassment. Unfortunately, Ms. Bouveng was repeatedly and consistently subjected to unsolicited sexual propositions and sexual commands, unwanted touching, and stalking.

17. During his employment by Defendants **NYGG**, Plaintiff **YONI WEISS** witnessed this sexual harassment by the company's highest-ranking executive, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY**, but was afraid to do anything about it. Indeed, when Plaintiff **YONI WEISS** eventually, truthfully reported this sexual harassment to lawyers investigating Hanna Bouveng's complaints, he was subjected to unlawful retaliation. Hanna Bouveng's civil action against Defendants **NYGG** and **BENJAMIN WEY** is currently pending in this Court. *See, Hanna Bouveng v. NYG Capital LLC d/b/a New York Global Group, FNL Media LLC, and Benjamin Wey, Docket No. 14-CV-5474 (PGG.)*

18. This retaliation included threats by Defendant Chief Executive Officer **BENJAMIN WEY**, and culminated in Plaintiff **YONI WEISS**'s unlawful termination, in violation of the United States Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Title 42 of the United States Code, Section 2000 *et seq.*, Title VII.

### **PLAINTIFF'S SPECIFIC ALLEGATIONS**

19. In approximately May 2013, Plaintiff **YONI WEISS** graduated *magna cum laude* and Phi Beta Kappa with a BFA from CUNY.

20. On or about October 1, 2013, Plaintiff **YONI WEISS** commenced working as a Graphic Designer for Defendants **NYGG** as an independent contractor. Plaintiff was paid approximately \$2600 monthly.

21. Because he excelled at his job, Plaintiff **YONI WEISS** was promoted to a full-time contract employee on or about December 1, 2013. Plaintiff's employment contract with **FNL MEDIA** guaranteed that his employment could not be terminated without cause absent two days' written notice.

22. On or about January 1, 2014, approximately three months after the commencement of his employment, Defendants **NYGG** awarded Plaintiff **YONI WEISS** a raise in his annual salary from \$31,200 to \$52,000.

23. During his employment at **FNL MEDIA**, Plaintiff **YONI WEISS** worked alongside with and got to know Hanna Bouveng, the Director of Corporate Communications at **NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP**. Hanna Bouveng came from a marketing and public relations background, and often provided insight regarding stories TheBlot Magazine was covering. In addition, Ms. Bouveng regularly attended TheBlot Magazine staff meetings with Defendant CEO **BENJAMIN WEY**, and provided insight concerning and assistance with promotion of the digital publication. Throughout Ms. Bouveng's employment, Plaintiff **YONI WEISS** saw Hanna Bouveng at work approximately daily.

24. Throughout the period Plaintiff **YONI WEISS** worked with Hanna Bouveng from approximately October 2013 until she was fired by Defendant CEO **BENJAMIN WEY** on or about April 22, 2014, Plaintiff **YONI WEISS** observed the CEO constantly behave in a sexually

inappropriate and lecherous manner toward Ms. Bouveng in the office.

25. Throughout the period Plaintiff **YONI WEISS** worked with Hanna Bouveng from approximately October 2013 until her April 22, 2014 termination, Plaintiff **YONI WEISS** observed Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** frequently make remarks about Hanna Bouveng's physical appearance, such as: "Oh, she's so pretty" and "She looks so glamorous!" At the same time, the CEO leered at Ms. Bouveng. This was so even though Ms. Bouveng dressed more conservatively than most of the female employees in the office. Plaintiff **YONI WEISS** was shocked that a CEO would behave in such an openly inappropriate manner at the office.

26. From approximately October 2013 until her April 22, 2014 termination, Plaintiff **YONI WEISS** observed that Hanna Bouveng was clearly embarrassed by and did not reciprocate Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY**'s remarks. Instead, she either did not respond or changed the topic to something business-related.

27. Throughout the period Plaintiff **YONI WEISS** worked with Hanna Bouveng from approximately October 2013 until Ms. Bouveng's April 22, 2014 termination, Plaintiff **YONI WEISS** also observed Defendant CEO **BENJAMIN WEY** stand close beside Hanna Bouveng and place his hand on the small of her back whenever he was in the same room with her. Plaintiff thought this was clearly inappropriate, and noted that Ms. Bouveng was obviously uncomfortable with the CEO's physical advances as well.

28. In approximately March 2014, Plaintiff **YONI WEISS** learned from Hanna Bouveng that Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** was repeatedly threatening to fire her, and telling her that she would be ruined if she did not do what he said.

29. During approximately April 2014, Plaintiff **YONI WEISS** noticed that Hanna Bouveng was particularly stressed out at work as Defendant CEO **BENJAMIN WEY** and Defendants

**NYGG** kept increasing her workload. At the same time, even though Ms. Bouveng was frantically trying to get everything done, she was still the consummate professional and pleasant with everyone at the office.

30. On or about April 23, 2014, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** summoned all of Defendants **NYGG**'s employees to a meeting and announced that Hanna Bouveng was no longer working for **NYGG**, that the company was no longer sponsoring her visa, and that Ms. Bouveng would be returning to Sweden.

31. Approximately one week later, on or about April 28, 2014, Plaintiff **YONI WEISS** met after work with Hanna Bouveng and Plaintiff's immediate supervisor Alicia Lu, Editor-in-Chief of TheBlot Magazine, at Zampa Winebar + Kitchen on West 13<sup>th</sup> Street in the West Village. While they were there, Hanna Bouveng answered on speaker phone a call from an "unknown" number. Plaintiff **YONI WEISS** then overheard Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** harangue Ms. Bouveng for having "cheated" on him. At the same time, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** begged Hanna Bouveng to meet with him alone, preferably for dinner, at Per Se or any other restaurant or place she wanted. Ms. Bouveng declined.

32. Commencing approximately late April and throughout May 2014, Defendant CEO **BENJAMIN WEY** repeatedly reminded all of Defendants **NYGG**'s employees "we're a family" and "loyalty is my number one." Defendant CEO **BENJAMIN WEY** also repeatedly threatened: "Anyone who talks to someone outside the company is going to get fucked!" As was often the case, Defendant CEO **BENJAMIN WEY** was very aggressive and intimidating. Plaintiff recognized that the CEO's thinly-veiled threats were related to Ms. Bouveng's termination from **NYGG**. Plaintiff was intimidated.

33. On or about May 15, 2014, Defendant CEO **BENJAMIN WEY** called Plaintiff **YONI**

**WEISS** into his office and met with him alone for approximately 20 minutes. During this meeting, Defendant CEO **BENJAMIN WEY** grilled Plaintiff **YONI WEISS** about whether he had seen Hanna Bouveng, whether he associated with her outside of work, and whether he had seen anything inappropriate occurring between him and Hanna Bouveng. Plaintiff **YONI WEISS** felt extremely intimidated and said nothing.

34. A few minutes later, on or about May 15, 2014, Plaintiff **YONI WEISS** was summoned into a meeting with three lawyers where he was told that Hanna Bouveng had “met up with lawyers” and had a potential case against Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** and Defendants **NYGG** that they wanted to discuss with him. While Plaintiff **YONI WEISS** was scared to directly confront his boss, Defendant CEO **BENJAMIN WEY**, about his sexual harassment of Hanna Bouveng, he felt ethically obligated to tell **NYGG**’s lawyers the truth. Even though he was nervous about the ramifications of reporting **WEY**’s misconduct, he did so.

35. On or about May 15, 2014, Plaintiff **YONI WEISS** told Defendant **NYGG**’s lawyers that Hanna Bouveng was an excellent employee. Plaintiff **YONI WEISS** further told the lawyers that after the CEO fired Hanna Bouveng, he overheard a telephone call from Defendant CEO **BENJAMIN WEY** to Hanna Bouveng during which the CEO praised Ms. Bouveng for being “very smart” and begged her to go out to dinner with him.

36. The following day, on or about May 16, 2014, Defendant CEO **BENJAMIN WEY** again summoned a meeting with **NYGG**’s entire office and announced aggressively: “I’m the boss!” and “The past is the past” and “We should all move on.” Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** also said: “Anyone who talks to people outside the company, Pinocchio’s nose gets too long, he gets fucked!” While **WEY** did not address Plaintiff **YONI WEISS** directly, the CEO repeatedly glared at Plaintiff during the meeting.

37. During the same meeting on or about May 16, 2014, Defendant CEO **BENJAMIN WEY** told TheBlot Magazine staff that he had hired a former FBI agent to investigate the illegal drug activities of young Swedish girls in New York City. Defendant CEO **BENJAMIN WEY** further announced that he wanted to publish seven-eight articles about “crazy drug-addicted Swedish party girls that need to be fired because they party all the time,” and was going to partner with the “number 1 tabloid in Sweden” and publish the articles in Swedish as well. While it was clear Defendant CEO **BENJAMIN WEY** was referencing Hanna Bouveng, the only Swedish person who had worked at the company, Plaintiff **YONI WEISS** and his co-workers found this especially bizarre since Hanna Bouveng was not a “party girl” and did not take drugs.

38. Following the meeting on or about May 16, 2014, TheBlot Magazine Editor Nikki Mascali and Social Media Manager Jason Gross approached Plaintiff **YONI WEISS**, asked if he was o.k., and asked why Defendant CEO **BENJAMIN WEY** was so angry at him. Defendant CEO **BENJAMIN WEY**’s threatening behavior was in direct retaliation for Plaintiff **YONI WEISS**’s report of **WEY**’s sexual harassment to **NYGG**’s lawyers.

39. On or about June 2, 2014, approximately two weeks after he reported Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY**’s sexual harassment of Hanna Bouveng to Defendant **NYGG**’s lawyers, Plaintiff **YONI WEISS** was fired by Defendant CEO **BENJAMIN WEY**.

40. During his meeting with the CEO on or about June 2, 2014, Defendant CEO **BENJAMIN WEY** told Plaintiff **YONI WEISS** he was “no longer allowed to work for” Defendants **NYGG** because he took vacation during his first year of employment, purportedly in violation of company policy. However, this was pretext. Not only did **NYGG** not have an official policy forbidding the same, but Defendant CEO **BENJAMIN WEY** had specifically approved Plaintiff **YONI WEISS**’s vacation in advance at a meeting in front of other **NYGG** employees.

41. Plaintiff **YONI WEISS** was fired in direct retaliation for honestly reporting Defendant CEO **BENJAMIN WEY**'s sexual harassment of Hanna Bouveng, and honestly speaking about her good character to Defendant CEO **BENJAMIN WEY**'s and **NYGG**'s lawyers.

42. As a consequence of the retaliation that culminated in his termination, Plaintiff **YONI WEISS** has suffered and continues to suffer emotional distress, including depression, anxiety, sleep disturbance and upset. Moreover, Plaintiff has suffered significant economic loss.

43. The allegations set forth above and below are incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

**AS AND FOR A FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**  
**TITLE VII - RETALIATION**

44. Plaintiff **YONATAN WEISS** repeats and realleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs 1 through 43 inclusive, with the same force and effect as though more fully set forth at length herein.

45. The aforesaid acts of intentional retaliation against Plaintiff by Defendants **BENJAMIN WEY** and **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC**, its officers, directors, supervisors, managers and/or employees, violated Plaintiff **YONATAN WEISS**'s rights as provided under as provided under Title VII of the United States Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Title 42 of the United States Code, §2000e-2(a).

46. As a consequence of Defendant's retaliation against Plaintiff **YONATAN WEISS** during his employment with Defendant **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC**, Plaintiff has sustained and continues to sustain conscious pain and suffering, great mental distress and humiliation, has incurred and continues to incur monetary loss,

and has been subjected to adverse employment actions, including the termination of his employment.

47. As a consequence of the foregoing misconduct of Defendants **BENJAMIN WEY** and **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC**, Plaintiff **YONATAN WEISS** is entitled to damages Title VII of the United States Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Title 42 of the United States Code, §2000e-2(a), in the amount of THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$300,000.00) DOLLARS compensatory damages, THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$300,000.00) DOLLARS punitive damages, plus economic damages, attorneys fees and costs.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff **YONATAN WEISS** demands judgment against Defendants **BENJAMIN WEY** and **NYG CAPITAL LLC D/B/A NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC** in the First Cause of Action in the amount of SIX HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$600,000.00) DOLLARS, all together with the costs and disbursements of this action, including attorneys' fees, plus interest, and for any other relief which this Court deems just and proper.

Dated: New York, New York  
November 3, 2014

**MORELLI ALTERS RATNER, LLP**

By:



David S. Ratner, Esq. (DR-7758)  
777 Third Avenue, 31<sup>st</sup> Floor  
New York, New York 10017  
(212) 751-9800

# EXHIBIT B

**In The Matter Of:**  
*HANNA BOUVENG, v*  
*NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP,*

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*December 15, 2014*

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*SOUTHERN DISTRICT REPORTERS*  
*500 PEARL STREET*  
*NEW YORK, NY 10007*  
*212 805-0330*

Original File ECFDBOUF.txt

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December 15, 2014

<p>Ecfdbouh Hearing</p> <p>Opening - Mr. Sher</p> <p>Page 9</p> <p>1 walked into a public cafe, saw Ms. Bouveng, and minutes later          2 walked out. He did not threaten her. He did not hurt her. He          3 did not even talk to her. And that was nearly four months ago.          4 And since that happened, the only conduct the plaintiff has          5 complained of is Mr. Wey's Internet publications. He has not          6 been in her presence. He has not communicated with her. He          7 has not communicated with her friends or her family. He has          8 only written articles.          9 And those articles are Mr. Wey's effort to defend          10 himself. Now, plaintiff and her friends and her family, I'm          11 sure, are upset by the content of those articles. I'm sure          12 they are even offended by the content, but that, your Honor, is          13 not irreparable harm. And we will argue, your Honor, that the          14 evidence does not support a preliminary injunction, which is          15 normally a extraordinary remedy and in this case made even more          16 extraordinary by the fact that the plaintiff is seeking to          17 restrain Mr. Wey's speech.          18 Thank you, Judge.          19 THE COURT: All right. The plaintiff will call her          20 first witness.          21 MR. RATNER: Yonatan Weiss.          22 THE CLERK: Please raise your right hand.          23 YONATAN WEISS,          24 called as a witness by the plaintiff,          25 having been duly sworn, testified as follows:</p>	<p>Ecfdbouh Hearing</p> <p>Weiss - direct</p> <p>Page 11</p> <p>1 Theater Company.          2 Q. At some point before working for the Atlantic Theater          3 Company, did you have another job?          4 A. Yes.          5 Q. What was that?          6 A. I was a graphic designer for FNL Media.          7 Q. And how did you get that job?          8 A. I interviewed then Editor-In-Chief Alex Geana and was hired          9 at the end of October 2013.          10 Q. Was that your first job out of college?          11 A. Yes.          12 Q. Do you know Hanna Bouveng?          13 A. I do.          14 Q. How do you know Hanna?          15 A. We worked together at FNL Media.          16 Q. And do you know Benjamin Wey.          17 A. Yes.          18 Q. How do you know Benjamin Wey?          19 A. He was my boss.          20 Q. When you say he was your boss, was he in some way connected          21 with FNL Media?          22 A. Yes. We shared offices with New York Global Group.          23 Officially, he was CEO of New York Global Group, but he was in          24 charge of day-to-day operations of FNL Media. He was in our          25 office every day.</p>
<p>Ecfdbouh Hearing</p> <p>Page 10</p> <p>1 THE CLERK: Please be seated.          2 And please state your full name and spell it for the          3 record.          4 THE WITNESS: Yonatan Weiss. That's Y-o-n-a-t-a-n.          5 Weiss is W-e-i-s-s.          6 THE COURT: Please proceed.          7 MR. RATNER: Thank you, your Honor.          8 DIRECT EXAMINATION          9 BY MR. RATNER:          10 Q. Good morning, Mr. Weiss.          11 A. Good morning.          12 Q. You and I know each other?          13 A. We do.          14 Q. I'm your lawyer?          15 A. You are.          16 Q. And I represent you in connection with the lawsuit against          17 Mr. Wey and NYGG and FNL Media, true?          18 A. You do. That's true.          19 Q. How old are you?          20 A. 24.          21 Q. And tell us a little about your background, your education,          22 type of work you do.          23 A. I'm a graphic designer. I graduated in May of 2013 from          24 the City University of New York magna cum laude and inducted          25 into Phi Beta Kappa, and I work currently at the Atlantic</p>	<p>Ecfdbouh Hearing</p> <p>Weiss - direct</p> <p>Page 12</p> <p>1 Q. When you worked for FNL Media, how often would you see          2 Mr. Wey?          3 A. Daily.          4 Q. And in what connection would you see him?          5 A. Well, he had weekly meetings with the team at FNL Media on          6 progress reports, and he would often dictate editorial          7 directions for The Blot, which was the publication.          8 THE COURT: You need to bring out what the business of          9 FNL Media is.          10 MR. RATNER: That was my next question, your Honor.          11 THE COURT: That's what lawyers always say. Go ahead.          12 Q. Tell us about the business of FNL Media.          13 A. FNL Media, I guess, as I understand it, was the parent          14 company that owned The Blot Magazine, which was an online          15 digital publication.          16 Q. And what is the -- when you say an online digital          17 publication, tell us what that means.          18 A. Oh, that means writers write stories about the news and          19 they are published on a website where if you went onto any          20 Internet browser and went to theblot.com you would see various          21 stories on a range of topics.          22 Q. What types of stories while you were there would The Blot          23 Magazine publish?          24 A. They were wide-ranging, from human interest stories to          25 international politics and economics and relationships, things</p>

December 15, 2014

<p>Ecfdbouh Weiss - direct Page 13 Hearing</p> <p>1 like that.</p> <p>2 Q. To your knowledge, did Mr. Wey contribute to the content of</p> <p>3 The Blot Magazine?</p> <p>4 A. Absolutely.</p> <p>5 Q. And can you tell us what you know he contributed to the</p> <p>6 content of The Blot Magazine?</p> <p>7 A. Well, every once in a while he came into our office, which</p> <p>8 was just down the hall, and handed us a flash drive and told us</p> <p>9 to publish the content that was on that USB drive or flash</p> <p>10 drive. Those articles were always these malicious, poorly</p> <p>11 written, riddled with grammar mistakes attacks and takedowns of</p> <p>12 very specific people. They described their physical appearance</p> <p>13 and attacked their character and their professional</p> <p>14 credentials. And we often had no idea what the context of</p> <p>15 these stories were. They seemed totally out of the blue, and</p> <p>16 usually we didn't have any investigative reporters. We often</p> <p>17 just reported on the news of the day. We would go to like The</p> <p>18 New York Times and see what was big. These stories kind of</p> <p>19 came out of nowhere.</p> <p>20 Q. And when you say you had no investigative reporters, who</p> <p>21 wrote the articles for The Blot?</p> <p>22 A. I didn't see anyone write them specifically with my own</p> <p>23 eyes, but Benjamin Wey was always the delivery guy who came in</p> <p>24 with the flash drive.</p> <p>25 Q. And --</p>	<p>Ecfdbouh Weiss - direct Page 15 Hearing</p> <p>1 Q. Can you tell us generally what those discussions were?</p> <p>2 A. Well, we immediately responded to him that they were</p> <p>3 unpublishable. They were these vicious articles that, like,</p> <p>4 defamed people and attacked their physical appearance, accused</p> <p>5 them of being fakes and phonies and liars and all sorts of</p> <p>6 things, and there is a whole slew of individuals out there.</p> <p>7 And so he would then instruct us to clean them up, basically,</p> <p>8 so we could publish them without like -- by, you know, by what</p> <p>9 we thought was a good standard. So basically we jammed in a</p> <p>10 bunch of, quote-unquote, allegedlies into these articles. We</p> <p>11 were given no substantiating proof -- no proof to substantiate</p> <p>12 claims that were made in those articles.</p> <p>13 Q. What was the -- do you remember specifically who those</p> <p>14 articles were about?</p> <p>15 A. Yeah. Interesting enough, one of them was John Carnes, who</p> <p>16 is a stock trader. He was --</p> <p>17 THE COURT: How do you spell his last name?</p> <p>18 THE WITNESS: Carnes is C-a-r-n-e-s. He was mentioned</p> <p>19 in the Economist, actually, in relation to some of those</p> <p>20 stories that we published about him.</p> <p>21 A. We had no idea who he was at the time, but we were told to</p> <p>22 write these -- publish these articles about him, and they often</p> <p>23 attacked his physical appearance and his mental state,</p> <p>24 emotional state, and in addition to his professional</p> <p>25 qualifications and his motives and all of these things that we</p>
<p>Ecfdbouh Weiss - direct Page 14 Hearing</p> <p>1 THE COURT: So he gave you all the content?</p> <p>2 THE WITNESS: For The Blot? No. Just these -- a</p> <p>3 handful of specific articles.</p> <p>4 THE COURT: I think the question was where the other</p> <p>5 content came from.</p> <p>6 THE WITNESS: Oh, the other content came from a team</p> <p>7 of freelance writers, sometimes staff writers that I was in</p> <p>8 contact with.</p> <p>9 BY MR. RATNER:</p> <p>10 Q. And besides Mr. Wey, who else attended meetings at The</p> <p>11 Blot?</p> <p>12 A. Well, the staff of The Blot, James Baxter, and other people</p> <p>13 at the office. The office manager and the secretary were</p> <p>14 there.</p> <p>15 Q. In terms of the flash drives that Mr. Wey would hand to</p> <p>16 you, were there any discussions between him and people who</p> <p>17 worked at The Blot concerning the content of these flash</p> <p>18 drives?</p> <p>19 A. Just to be clear, they weren't handed to me specifically.</p> <p>20 They were handed to the editor, who she sat next to me, and we</p> <p>21 would kind of work on them together because they were such</p> <p>22 editorial --</p> <p>23 Q. So were there discussions between you and the editor and</p> <p>24 Mr. Wey concerning the content of these flash drives?</p> <p>25 A. Absolutely.</p>	<p>Ecfdbouh Weiss - direct Page 16 Hearing</p> <p>1 have no evidence to substantiate.</p> <p>2 And in terms of graphically, it was my job to -- part</p> <p>3 of my job was to provide footage or photos to accompany these</p> <p>4 articles, and I was often instructed by Mr. Wey to make them</p> <p>5 incredibly bright and like powerful. He had asked me to like</p> <p>6 add devil horns and handcuffs to these images.</p> <p>7 Another article was about Dune Lawrence, D-u-n-e</p> <p>8 L-a-w-r-e-n-c-e. She was a financial reporter for Bloomberg.</p> <p>9 Another was about some accountant in Indiana or</p> <p>10 Illinois.</p> <p>11 And then upon researching these people ourselves, it</p> <p>12 felt like we were grasping at straws, almost, but there was</p> <p>13 barely any hint of a connection between them and Mr. Wey. It</p> <p>14 was only when we pressed him really hard he would sometimes</p> <p>15 give us these like anecdotes about who these people were and</p> <p>16 why he was interested in pursuing these stories.</p> <p>17 Q. The bylines on these articles, were they in Mr. Wey's name?</p> <p>18 A. No. They were -- we were instructed to put them under</p> <p>19 pseudonyms.</p> <p>20 Q. And when you say "pseudonyms," were these just made up</p> <p>21 names?</p> <p>22 A. Yes. We were told to make up names.</p> <p>23 Q. Now, at some point you learned that Hanna Bouveng was</p> <p>24 fired, true?</p> <p>25 A. Yes.</p>

December 15, 2014

<p>Ecfdboh Weiss - direct Page 17 Hearing</p> <p>1 Q. How did you learn that?</p> <p>2 A. Mr. Wey called a meeting of the staff of FNL Media and</p> <p>3 everyone in the office so --</p> <p>4 THE COURT: Maybe we could step back.</p> <p>5 What was her job?</p> <p>6 THE WITNESS: She was the communications director for</p> <p>7 New York Global Group, but she worked with the staff of -- she</p> <p>8 worked with us on The Blot Magazine as well, too, so.</p> <p>9 BY MR. RATNER:</p> <p>10 Q. How often would you see Ms. Bouveng?</p> <p>11 A. Daily.</p> <p>12 Q. Have you stayed in contact with her since she has been</p> <p>13 fired?</p> <p>14 A. Not really.</p> <p>15 Q. Have you socialized with her since she has been fired?</p> <p>16 A. No.</p> <p>17 Q. Did you socialize with her at all before she was fired?</p> <p>18 A. Yes.</p> <p>19 Q. How often?</p> <p>20 A. Very infrequently. If I had to give a rate, I would say</p> <p>21 maybe once a month.</p> <p>22 Q. And did you ever socialize with Mr. Wey before you were</p> <p>23 fired?</p> <p>24 A. No.</p> <p>25 Q. Now, you told us you found out that she was fired because a</p>	<p>Ecfdboh Weiss - direct Page 19 Hearing</p> <p>1 THE WITNESS: They were a private equity firm.</p> <p>2 THE COURT: Go ahead.</p> <p>3 And how did FNL make revenue?</p> <p>4 THE WITNESS: We didn't, really. We sold ad space but</p> <p>5 precious little of it.</p> <p>6 THE COURT: All right. Go ahead.</p> <p>7 BY MR. RATNER:</p> <p>8 Q. When you say -- when you mentioned the employees of FNL</p> <p>9 Media, did you include Mr. Wey as one of those employees?</p> <p>10 A. Yeah. He was the boss.</p> <p>11 Q. OK. And you mentioned a lawyer. Was that Mr. Baxter?</p> <p>12 A. Yes, it was. He was also the general counsel for FNL</p> <p>13 Media.</p> <p>14 Q. And you mentioned an office manager. Was she working for</p> <p>15 both New York Global Group and --</p> <p>16 A. I believe -- yeah, officially she was employed by New York</p> <p>17 Global Group, but she helped run the finances. She was the</p> <p>18 bookkeeper for The Blot Magazine as well.</p> <p>19 Q. What about Mr. Wey's wife, what did she have to do with FNL</p> <p>20 Media?</p> <p>21 A. She also assisted with bookkeeping and payroll.</p> <p>22 Q. OK. So you say Mr. Wey called a meeting. How many people</p> <p>23 attended this meeting?</p> <p>24 A. Everyone who was in the office at the time. So it may have</p> <p>25 been six/seven people at that meeting.</p>
<p>Ecfdboh Weiss - direct Page 18 Hearing</p> <p>1 meeting was called.</p> <p>2 A. Yes.</p> <p>3 Q. Who called the meeting?</p> <p>4 A. Mr. Wey.</p> <p>5 Q. Who attended the meeting?</p> <p>6 A. Myself and all of my colleagues in the office. So --</p> <p>7 THE COURT: How many people worked there?</p> <p>8 Why don't we start with FNL. How many people worked</p> <p>9 on FNL?</p> <p>10 THE WITNESS: Well, it fluctuated but at the time of</p> <p>11 my termination it was myself and two other full-time employees.</p> <p>12 THE COURT: All right.</p> <p>13 THE WITNESS: And New York Global Group had a slew of</p> <p>14 full-time staff that all of us worked together pretty much</p> <p>15 every single day. It didn't really matter what matters they</p> <p>16 were. If we had issues regarding The Blot Magazine, the staff</p> <p>17 from New York Global Group would help us out, thing like that.</p> <p>18 THE COURT: When you say had a "slew" of staff, what</p> <p>19 does that mean?</p> <p>20 THE WITNESS: Office managers, secretary, lawyer,</p> <p>21 Mr. Wey and his wife.</p> <p>22 THE COURT: About how many people, approximately?</p> <p>23 THE WITNESS: Like six.</p> <p>24 THE COURT: All right. And what was the business of</p> <p>25 New York Global Group?</p>	<p>Ecfdboh Weiss - direct Page 20 Hearing</p> <p>1 Q. And what did Mr. Wey say?</p> <p>2 A. Well, Mr. Wey instructed us that she had been fired, she no</p> <p>3 longer works for the company, and she -- her visa had been</p> <p>4 terminated and she returned to Sweden, and that was it. You</p> <p>5 will never hear from her again.</p> <p>6 Q. Did he say anything else at the meeting?</p> <p>7 A. Yeah. He told us that he had hired a former FBI</p> <p>8 investigator to look into Swedish party girls who come to New</p> <p>9 York City and drink too much alcohol and do too many drugs and</p> <p>10 they become bad at their jobs and need to be fired.</p> <p>11 Q. And at any time before that meeting, did Mr. Wey express an</p> <p>12 interest in investigating what he called Swedish party girls?</p> <p>13 A. No.</p> <p>14 Q. Did The Blot at any time before that meeting run any sort</p> <p>15 of investigative pieces about Swedish party girls?</p> <p>16 A. Absolutely not.</p> <p>17 Q. Did The Blot at any time before that meeting run any sort</p> <p>18 of investigative pieces about any kind of party girls?</p> <p>19 A. No.</p> <p>20 Q. When Mr. Wey said that he hired a former FBI investigator</p> <p>21 to look into Swedish party girls, what did you take that to</p> <p>22 mean?</p> <p>23 A. Oh, it was just going to be another one of those takedown</p> <p>24 articles on all of those others. Hanna was just going to be</p> <p>25 his next, you know, victim.</p>

December 15, 2014

Ecfdboh Weiss - direct Page 25  
 Hearing

1 A. An ISP address just identifies an Internet connection,  
 2 basically. If there was, say, Wi-Fi in this courtroom, it  
 3 would have an ISP number, and if we were all on it and we all  
 4 posted to the Internet, all our posts would say it came from  
 5 this one IP address.  
 6 Q. Did you from time to time look at the names of people -- of  
 7 the so-called authors of the comments that were left after  
 8 these articles that came on the flash drive?  
 9 A. We were often told to change the names of the comments --  
 10 of those who has left comments on those articles.  
 11 Q. Why was that?  
 12 A. Well, because we immediately told Mr. Wey that these  
 13 comments on these articles are trolls, which is a contemporary  
 14 term used for people who are not even people, sometimes just  
 15 robots that are programmed to trash and/or enforce a certain  
 16 point of view on an article.  
 17 It also helps with search engine optimization. If  
 18 articles have more comments on them, it shows algorithm -- it  
 19 shows search engines that the page is being interacted with and  
 20 that it is, therefore, more trustworthy if users are  
 21 interacting. However, it is incredibly easy to, you know, in  
 22 effect, spam something by throwing a tone of comments at it  
 23 from wherever, especially if you don't verify where these  
 24 comments come from.  
 25 Q. OK. Now, you are awake, are you not, that The Blot has

Ecfdboh Weiss - direct Page 26  
 Hearing

1 published a series of articles about Hanna Bouveng?  
 2 A. I am aware.  
 3 Q. Have you read these articles?  
 4 A. Parts of them.  
 5 Q. And based on what you've seen Mr. Wey hand you on the flash  
 6 drives and your reading parts of these articles, do you have  
 7 any sense as to who wrote them?  
 8 A. Most likely, the same person who wrote all the others.  
 9 Q. And why do you say that?  
 10 A. The tone of voice, the verbiage that's used, just the  
 11 nature of the article being malicious and going after her  
 12 character, and the way the articles were structured --  
 13 THE COURT: Let's step back.  
 14 So the articles -- Blot's articles about Ms. Bouveng,  
 15 you received those articles on a flash drive from Mr. Wey?  
 16 THE WITNESS: They were published after I was  
 17 terminated.  
 18 THE COURT: Ah, OK. Go ahead.  
 19 MR. RATNER: OK.  
 20 BY MR. RATNER:  
 21 Q. You are just saying that based on your reading the ones  
 22 that he handed you and reading that, in your opinion they  
 23 seemed to be from the same source?  
 24 A. Yep.  
 25 Q. OK. Now, you no longer work for FNL Media, true?

Ecfdboh Weiss - direct Page 27  
 Hearing

1 A. True.  
 2 Q. And that's because you were fired, true?  
 3 A. I was fired, true.  
 4 Q. Before you were fired --  
 5 THE COURT: When were you fired?  
 6 THE WITNESS: June 2nd.  
 7 THE COURT: Of 2014?  
 8 THE WITNESS: Yes.  
 9 BY MR. RATNER:  
 10 Q. Before you were fired, did Mr. Wey have another meeting at  
 11 FNL Media about Ms. Bouveng?  
 12 MS. RIESMAN: Objection, your Honor, a leading  
 13 question.  
 14 THE COURT: Overruled.  
 15 A. Yes. About two weeks prior to my termination, he called  
 16 another meeting of all the staff in the office, and instructed  
 17 us that the past was the past and we should forget all this.  
 18 And this was the day after we had all met with lawyers that  
 19 were representing him. And his gaze came down very hard on  
 20 myself. He would have these like very intimidating look, so  
 21 much so that my coworkers after that meeting came up to me and  
 22 asked me why he was so enraged with me, even though he wasn't  
 23 shouting in that meeting, although he shouted in the past in  
 24 meetings. But it was so obvious that he was focused on me in  
 25 that meeting I presume because I said something to his lawyers

Ecfdboh Weiss - direct Page 28  
 Hearing

1 that he wasn't pleased with.  
 2 Q. Let's back up a second. You told us that Mr. Wey's lawyers  
 3 came to FNL Media?  
 4 A. Yes. About mid-May.  
 5 Q. And before the lawyers came, did you and Mr. Wey meet  
 6 concerning the lawyers?  
 7 A. Yes. Just before I met with them, he called me into his  
 8 office.  
 9 Q. Was that the same day the lawyers were there?  
 10 A. Yes.  
 11 Q. And do you remember that exact date?  
 12 A. I don't. It was mid-May.  
 13 Q. During that one-on-one meeting with Mr. Wey before the  
 14 lawyers came, what did he say to you, what did you say to him?  
 15 MS. RIESMAN: Objection, your Honor. Irrelevant.  
 16 THE COURT: Irrelevant? I don't understand. How do  
 17 you -- well, could you make an offer of proof about what the  
 18 conversation was about?  
 19 MR. RATNER: It was about the meeting with the lawyers  
 20 concerning Hanna Bouveng, her termination, and his -- Mr. Wey's  
 21 attempt to intimidate Mr. Weiss.  
 22 THE COURT: So how could that be irrelevant?  
 23 MS. RIESMAN: Mr. Weiss was fired and the  
 24 circumstances around his termination aren't relevant to --  
 25 THE COURT: It is not about him being fired. It is

December 15, 2014

<p>Ecfdbouh Weiss - direct Page 29 Hearing</p> <p>1 about a meeting that took place just before the witness was  2 supposed to meet with lawyers for Mr. Wey to discuss  3 Ms. Bouveng. That's what the meeting is about, as counsel  4 represented it.  5 Overruled.  6 A. He called me into his office just before I met with his  7 lawyers. I was unaware that I was about to meet with lawyers.  8 We met for about 30 minutes, and it was one-on-one and he was  9 extremely intimidating and scary and --  10 Q. If you could just tell us what he said to you.  11 THE COURT: Yes. I don't want you to characterize. I  12 want you to just tell us what he said without the  13 characterization.  14 THE WITNESS: Yes. Yes, your Honor.  15 A. He told me if I knew who Hanna was socializing with outside  16 the office. He kept mentioning this club promoter and alleged  17 drug dealer and alleged ex-con. I have no idea who it was.  18 And he told me that they were trying to extort money out of  19 him. And he told me that no one extorts money out of him. And  20 there was long periods of silence. I had nothing to say. I  21 didn't -- I was a little too scared to answer, but, also, I had  22 no idea what he was taking about.  23 Q. Did he mention that you were going to be meeting with  24 lawyers?  25 A. No.</p>	<p>Ecfdbouh Weiss - direct Page 31 Hearing</p> <p>1 Q. What was that reason?  2 A. I was told that I violated the company vacation policy.  3 Q. How did you react to that?  4 A. Well, I told him that I didn't because the vacation  5 policy -- my vacation that I had taken in the beginning of May  6 had been approved by Mr. Wey a month prior, and in addition to  7 that, no vacation policy was spelled out in my contract.  8 Q. Now, it's fair to say that you are suing Mr. Wey, true?  9 A. Yes.  10 Q. And because of that would you lie for Hanna?  11 A. No.  12 Q. Why not?  13 A. I have a job. I don't need to be suing Mr. Wey. That is  14 not depended on my survival, that lawsuit. Like I'm not that  15 friendly -- I'm not that close with Hanna.  16 Q. Since you were fired and Hanna was fired, The Blot  17 published some articles about Hanna specifically, true?  18 A. Yes.  19 Q. Did those in any way question your faith in her?  20 A. No.  21 Q. And published some articles about me and my law firm and  22 Ms. McBrayer?  23 A. That's true.  24 Q. Yes. Did those question your faith in us?  25 A. No.</p>
<p>Ecfdbouh Weiss - direct Page 30 Hearing</p> <p>1 Q. And right after -- or shortly after that, you met with the  2 lawyers?  3 A. Yes.  4 Q. And what was your understanding that this meeting was  5 about?  6 A. Well, the lawyers made it clear that Hanna was attempting  7 to bring a sexual harassment case against Mr. Wey, and they  8 were -- started to ask me if I had observed any uncouth  9 behavior on Mr. Wey's part towards Hanna.  10 Q. What did you tell them?  11 A. I told them -- well, I was fairly confused at the time, but  12 I told them that, yes, I had observed some strange and  13 inappropriate behavior.  14 Q. And without going into the specific details of what you  15 told them, would you characterize that behavior as sexual  16 harassment?  17 A. Yes.  18 Q. OK. Then did there come time when you got fired?  19 A. Yes.  20 Q. And you told us that was --  21 A. June 2, 2014.  22 Q. And were you given -- who fired you?  23 A. Mr. Wey.  24 Q. Were you given a reason why you were fired?  25 A. Yes.</p>	<p>Ecfdbouh Weiss - direct Page 32 Hearing</p> <p>1 Q. Do you still want us to represent you?  2 A. I do.  3 MR. RATNER: OK. I have nothing further, your Honor.  4 MR. SHER: May I have a minute, your Honor?  5 THE COURT: Yes.  6 (Pause)  7 MS. RIESMAN: Thank you, your Honor.  8 CROSS-EXAMINATION  9 BY MS. RIESMAN:  10 Q. My name is Joanna Riesman. Hello.  11 A. Hi.  12 Q. So you are suing Mr. Wey, correct?  13 A. That's correct.  14 Q. And you filed a lawsuit against Mr. Wey in the state court,  15 correct?  16 A. I believe that's where it started, yeah.  17 Q. And then you filed a second lawsuit in federal court, in  18 this court, correct?  19 A. I believe so, yes.  20 Q. And even though you thus stated that you don't need the  21 money for this lawsuit, you've asked for \$300,000 in  22 compensatory damages, correct?  23 A. That is correct.  24 Q. And you've asked for another \$300,000 in punitive damages,  25 correct?</p>

December 16, 2014

Ecgbou3 Bouveng - direct Page 275  
 Hearing

1 Q. Were you -- Mr. Wey said you were an intern there. What's  
 2 your understanding of what your duties and responsibilities  
 3 were as Director of Corporate Communications?  
 4 MR. SHER: Objection. There are multiple questions in  
 5 there. Compound.  
 6 THE COURT: Sustained.  
 7 BY MR. RATNER:  
 8 Q. What were your duties and responsibilities as the Director  
 9 of Corporate Communications?  
 10 A. I assisted Mr. Wey and Mr. Baxter on all their meetings. I  
 11 helped them organize meetings, presentations, introducing  
 12 people. I was involved in a lot of work with The Blot  
 13 Magazine, weekly meetings, etc. I was basically a part of  
 14 everything they did.  
 15 Q. From time to time, would you accompany Mr. Wey on business  
 16 trips?  
 17 A. Yes.  
 18 Q. Where were those trips?  
 19 A. They could be to Boston, China, Dubai, Sweden.  
 20 Q. And when you accompanied Mr. Wey on those business trips,  
 21 what were your duties and responsibilities?  
 22 MR. SHER: Objection, your Honor. I think this is  
 23 beyond the scope of the hearing.  
 24 THE COURT: Overruled.  
 25 A. My duties was to coordinate, help book the trips, just

Ecgbou3 Bouveng - direct Page 276  
 Hearing

1 assist during all the meetings, attend all the meetings,  
 2 introduce people.  
 3 Q. At some point -- withdrawn.  
 4 When you were first hired by New York Global Group,  
 5 where were you living?  
 6 A. In East Village.  
 7 Q. And did there come a time when you moved into an apartment  
 8 that Mr. Wey was paying 60 percent of the rent of?  
 9 A. Yes.  
 10 Q. When was that?  
 11 A. The 1st of December 2013.  
 12 Q. When?  
 13 A. The 1st of December 2013.  
 14 Q. Tell us how that came about.  
 15 A. Mr. Wey started to insist on that I should get my own  
 16 apartment so I would feel better about myself as a business  
 17 woman and feel more like a grownup instead of living in the  
 18 apartment where I used to live. But I thought -- I said to him  
 19 that I couldn't afford it, considering the salary he gave me.  
 20 But he kept on insisting and that he would give me a raise and  
 21 that they would pay -- pay the rent for the apartment.  
 22 So eventually I agreed to it. And he wanted me to  
 23 search for apartments, and one day he walked into the office  
 24 and said that he found a perfect apartment for me and that was  
 25 in a building that was just around the corner from our offices.

Ecgbou3 Bouveng - direct Page 277  
 Hearing

1 And he was very persistent and, you know, at that time, I  
 2 really -- after a while I just agreed to do that. And that's  
 3 how it came about.  
 4 Q. Did there come a time when you and Mr. Wey had a sexual  
 5 relationship?  
 6 A. Yes.  
 7 Q. And when did that begin?  
 8 MR. SHER: Objection, your Honor. I think this is  
 9 beyond the scope.  
 10 THE COURT: No, it's not beyond the scope, and let me  
 11 explain why. There is a lot of behavior here that took place  
 12 after this lawsuit was filed, and in order for me to understand  
 13 why certain actions were taken, certain emails were sent,  
 14 certain material was posted, I need to understand the  
 15 relationship between Mr. Wey and the plaintiff. So it goes  
 16 directly to the issue before me. So that's why I am overruling  
 17 your objection, Mr. Sher.  
 18 Go ahead.  
 19 Q. When did it begin?  
 20 A. It all began with him, you know --  
 21 Q. Ms. Bouveng, listen to the question. When did it begin?  
 22 A. October.  
 23 Q. Of 2014?  
 24 A. Yes.  
 25 Q. Did it end?

Ecgbou3 Bouveng - direct Page 278  
 Hearing

1 A. Yes.  
 2 Q. When did it end?  
 3 A. February.  
 4 Q. And how did it end --  
 5 THE COURT: Wait. Wait. Wait a second. It began in  
 6 October of 2014? That can't be.  
 7 MR. RATNER: I'm sorry. '13. I'm sorry, your Honor.  
 8 THE COURT: When did it begin?  
 9 THE WITNESS: What begin, your Honor?  
 10 THE COURT: The sexual relationship Mr. Ratner was  
 11 asking you about.  
 12 THE WITNESS: That began in December.  
 13 THE COURT: December of what year?  
 14 THE WITNESS: 2013.  
 15 THE COURT: 2013, all right.  
 16 MR. RATNER: I'm sorry.  
 17 BY MR. RATNER:  
 18 Q. When did it end?  
 19 A. February 2014.  
 20 Q. How did it end?  
 21 A. I said that I didn't want to be with him anymore, sleep  
 22 with him, that I didn't want to be a part of that anymore.  
 23 Q. After the sexual relationship ended, did Mr. Wey's behavior  
 24 toward you change in any way?  
 25 A. Yes.

# EXHIBIT C

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

=====X  
**HANNA BOUVENG,**

**Plaintiff,**

**-against-**

**NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL  
GROUP, FNL MEDIA LLC, and  
BENJAMIN WEY,**

**Defendants.**  
-----X

**Docket No.: 14-cv-5474  
(PGG)**

**SECOND AMENDED  
COMPLAINT**

**PLAINTIFF DEMANDS A  
TRIAL BY JURY**

Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**, by her attorneys **MORELLI ALTERS RATNER LLP**,  
complaining of the Defendants herein, upon information and belief respectfully alleges as follows:

1. Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** is a 24-year-old woman, a citizen of Sweden, visiting the United States on a J1-Visa. Throughout her employment with Defendants, she resided in the City, County and State of New York.
2. Commencing on or about October 1, 2013 until her wrongful termination on or about April 22, 2014, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** was employed in Manhattan as Director of Corporate Communications by Defendant **NYG CAPITAL LLC** doing business as **NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP**. Throughout her employment with Defendant **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP**, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** also worked for Defendant **FNL MEDIA LLC**.
3. At all times hereinafter mentioned, Defendant **NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** was and remains a leading U.S. and Asia-based strategic market entry advisory, venture capital and private

equity investment group on Wall Street that services clients (including Fortune 500 companies and governments) worldwide. Defendant **NYG CAPITAL LLC** is a company organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of New York, with its principal place of business in the City, County and State of New York.

4. With access to approximately \$1 billion in investment capital, Defendant **NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** has led or participated in more than 250 projects worldwide. Defendant **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** (hereinafter, referred collectively to as “**NYGG**”) employs approximately 110 people globally, including approximately 51 people throughout the United States, approximately seven of whom work in its Manhattan headquarters. Defendant **NYGG**’s annual revenues exceed \$25 million.

5. At all times hereinafter mentioned, Defendant **FNL MEDIA LLC** (“**FNL MEDIA**”) was and remains a division of and/or the wholly-owned subsidiary of Defendant **NYGG**. Defendant **FNL MEDIA LLC** is a company organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of New York, with its principal place of business in the City, County and State of New York.

6. Defendant **FNL MEDIA** is the publisher of TheBlot Magazine, a digital publication. TheBlot Magazine claims it “brings traditional journalism to the modern day with bright, witty, opinionated content.” TheBlot Magazine further explains: “Our name pays homage to that ubiquitous mark found splattered on the desks of old-world authors, a symbol that evokes the power of the written word.” TheBlot Magazine has at least six employees.

7. Throughout Plaintiff’s employment, Defendants **NYGG** and **FNL MEDIA LLC** operated as a single or joint enterprise. Throughout Plaintiff’s employment, Defendants **NYGG** and **FNL MEDIA** shared the same offices on Wall Street, as well as the same management, ownership, and interrelated operations.

8. Throughout Plaintiff's employment, Defendants **NYGG** and **FNL MEDIA LLC** operated as Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**'s single or joint employer. While Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** was formally employed by Defendant **NYGG**, throughout her employment with Defendant **NYGG** she was assigned by Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** to work for Defendant **FNL MEDIA**, including on its business development. Throughout her employment, approximately twice weekly, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** attended internal meetings with Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** and General Counsel James Baxter and various Defendant **FNL MEDIA** employees, including Blot Editor-in-Chief Alicia Lu and Blot Graphic Designer Yoni Weiss, concerning Blot Magazine content (which Defendant **WEY** dictated), budget, and marketing (e.g., use of social media/PR to promote TheBlot.) Throughout Plaintiff's employment with Defendant **NYGG**, she was also constructively employed by Defendant **FNL MEDIA**.

9. Commencing approximately 2002 through the present, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** (f/k/a Benjamin Wei and Tianbing Wei) was and remains Chief Executive Officer of Defendant **NYGG**, the highest-ranking executive, manager, supervisor and employee of Defendant **NYGG**.

10. Throughout Plaintiff's employment, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** was also Publisher and Owner of TheBlot Magazine, the highest-ranking executive, manager, supervisor and employee of Defendant **FNL MEDIA**. As Publisher and Owner of TheBlot Magazine, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** dictated and controlled all content disseminated by TheBlot: nothing was published by Defendant **FNL MEDIA** without **WEY**'s prior approval.

11. Throughout Plaintiff's employment and to date, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** has written and/or re-written and/or edited highly insulting, embarrassing and defamatory articles in TheBlot Magazine under names other than his own, and has written and/or re-written and/or edited

purported comments to the same articles under names other than his own, in order to attack various individuals and/or entities, including not only Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**, but also her family, friends, business acquaintances, colleagues, and attorneys. These articles not only constitute defamation, but are also thinly-veiled attempts to: intimidate prospective witnesses; discourage Plaintiff and others from pursuing and/or cooperating with and/or participating in this litigation; and sway any potential jury pool.

12. Throughout Plaintiff's employment, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** routinely boasted: "I'm a very, very powerful man" and "I'm one of the top dogs on Wall Street!" **WEY**, who is approximately in his mid-'40s, is married to lawyer Michaela Wey (an employee of Defendant **NYGG** and of Defendant **FNL MEDIA**), and the father of three children. He is also a virulent sexual harasser and stalker. Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY**'s office is located in Manhattan at Defendant **NYGG**'s and Defendant **FNL MEDIA**'s shared headquarters. **BENJAMIN WEY**'s residence is also in Manhattan.

13. Throughout Plaintiff's employment, James N. Baxter, Esq. was Executive Chairman and General Counsel of Defendant **NYGG**, an executive, manager, supervisor and employee of Defendant **NYGG**. Throughout Plaintiff's employment with Defendant **NYGG**, James N. Baxter, Esq. was also General Counsel for Defendant **FNL MEDIA**. Executive Chairman and General Counsel James Baxter's office is located in Manhattan at Defendant **NYGG**'s and Defendant **FNL MEDIA**'s shared headquarters.

14. Throughout Plaintiff's employment, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY**'s wife Michaela Wey was responsible for bookkeeping, accounting and payroll for Defendant **NYGG** and Defendant **FNL MEDIA**. Throughout Plaintiff's employment, Michaela Wey was and remains an executive, manager, supervisor and/or employee of Defendant **NYGG** and of Defendant **FNL**

**MEDIA.** Michaela Wey's office is located in Manhattan at Defendant **NYGG's** and Defendant **FNL MEDIA's** shared headquarters.

15. Throughout Plaintiff's employment, from approximately October 1, 2013 until on or about April 22, 2014, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** reported directly to Executive Chairman and General Counsel James Baxter. James Baxter reported and continues to report directly to CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY**. Defendant **NYG CAPITAL LLC** d/b/a **NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and Defendant **FNL MEDIA LLC** shall hereinafter be referred collectively to as "**NYGG**."

16. At all times material to this Complaint, the individual officers, directors, executives, managers, supervisors, employees and/or agents mentioned herein, acted within the scope of their duties as officers, directors, executives, managers, supervisors, employees and/or agents of Defendants **NYGG**.

17. Jurisdiction of the subject matter of this action is established in this Court under Title 28 of the United States Code, Section 1332 (diversity) and the amount in controversy exceeds the jurisdictional requisite. This is the proper venue for this action in that unlawful acts alleged herein were committed within this Court's jurisdiction.

**GENERAL ALLEGATIONS OF GENDER DISCRIMINATION,**  
**QUID PRO QUO SEXUAL HARASSMENT,**  
**A SEXUALLY HOSTILE WORK ENVIRONMENT, AND RETALIATION**

18. This lawsuit arises out of an ongoing wrongful scheme by Defendants **BENJAMIN WEY** and **NYGG** to discriminate against Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** during her employment with Defendants because of her gender.

19. This discrimination includes Defendants' systematic subjection of Plaintiff to disgusting and degrading *quid pro quo* sexual harassment, creating a sexually hostile work environment that was so inappropriate and outrageous that any member of society would take offense, in violation of New York State Human Rights Law and New York City Human Rights Law.

20. During her employment with Defendants **NYGG**, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** was subjected to the flagrantly lewd, vulgar and repulsive sexual advances of the highest-ranking supervisor and manager at **NYGG**, Defendant Chief Executive Officer/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY**. Unfortunately, Plaintiff was repeatedly and consistently subjected to unsolicited sexual propositions and sexual commands, as well as sexual gropings, molestations, assault and battery, as well as stalking.

21. Unfortunately, within Defendants **NYGG**, a permissive and encouraging environment for gender discrimination and sexual harassment reigns among executives, officers, managers, supervisors, employees and agents of the company because employees fear the wrath of the company's sociopathic leader, Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY**.

22. This discrimination further includes Defendants **NYGG**'s systematic subjection of Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** to retaliation for her refusal to submit further to the sexual advances of Defendants' highest-ranking manager and supervisor, Chief Executive Officer/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY**, culminating in her unlawful termination, in violation of New York State Human Rights Law and New York City Human Rights Law.

#### **PLAINTIFF'S BACKGROUND AND EMPLOYMENT**

23. In approximately March 2012, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** earned her B.S. in Media and Communications from Halmstad University in Sweden. During the course of her

undergraduate studies, Ms. **BOUVENG** spent a semester abroad studying at Jan May Hong Kong Baptist University and working in Hong Kong. Plaintiff is fluent in Swedish, English and Norwegian, and understands basic German and French.

24. From approximately November 2011 through December 2012, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** worked as a Product Manager responsible for advertising sales, negotiations and marketing at Pecto AS in Oslo, Norway. At the conclusion of her employment in December 2012, Sales Manager Liv Ragnhild Heier wrote:

Because of her great sales results, Hanna was chosen to work on a new project involving DNB, Norway's largest bank. She solved the challenge excellent (*sic*) and signed many important clients.

\*\*\*

Hanna is a positive, ambitious, responsible and effective young lady, and we are very satisfied with the work she has done. Her sales results have been among the best in her sales group, and she has taken new opportunities and challenges very well.

I give Hanna my strongest recommendations and best wishes for the future.

25. In approximately January 2013, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** came to the United States to pursue her dream of living, working and studying in New York City. Plaintiff enrolled in classes at Berkeley College and worked as a volunteer intern in marketing at Upton Realty Group in Manhattan.

26. In approximately early July 2013, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** invited Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** to lunch at Capital Grille off Wall Street to discuss internship/employment opportunities in New York. Because Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** is 50% owner of Swedish coffee chain FIKA's stores in Manhattan, Plaintiff assumed **WEY** was going to discuss opportunities at FIKA with her. During the course of this lunch, however, Defendant

**BENJAMIN WEY** abruptly told Plaintiff: "What I really want is a girlfriend I can show New York and the world to." Plaintiff responded quickly and unequivocally that she was not interested in a boyfriend, but was looking for a position with a company where she could develop and improve her marketing and communications skills. Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** was non-responsive and the lunch ended.

27. However the following day in approximately early July 2013, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** telephoned Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** and recruited her to work as a paid intern at **NYGG** reporting to Executive Chairman and General Counsel James Baxter. Because Plaintiff had made it clear that she was only interested in a professional relationship, and because Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** had nevertheless offered her the position after learning that was the case, and because she believed working at **NYGG** would be a good professional learning experience, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** accepted the job.

28. On or about July 16, 2013, **NYGG**'s Executive Chairman and General Counsel James Baxter filed J1-Visa paperwork with the United States Department of State reflecting **NYGG**'s hiring of Plaintiff as a paid intern with **NYGG** commencing on or about October 1, 2013 through on or about February 1, 2015.

29. On or about October 1, 2013, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** commenced working at Defendant **NYGG** as Director of Corporate Communications. Plaintiff was paid approximately \$2000 monthly and reported directly to Executive Chairman and General Counsel James Baxter, Esq.

30. Commencing approximately October 1, 2013 until she was fired on or about April 22, 2014, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** excelled at her job as Director of Corporate Communications at **NYGG**. Indeed, on repeated occasions, Plaintiff's immediate supervisor

James Baxter praised Plaintiff's job performance. So did Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER **BENJAMIN WEY**.

31. During her employment, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** was entrusted with the responsibility of representing Defendant **NYGG** at meetings with top executives of corporations Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** wanted **NYGG** to do business with. At approximately every such meeting where Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** accompanied Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** mentioned that he was also the Owner of Defendant **FNL MEDIA's** TheBlot Magazine.

32. During her employment, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** was further given the responsibility of meeting alone with prospective **NYGG** clients in Europe. For instance, in approximately late November 2013, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** flew to Copenhagen on behalf of Defendant **NYGG** and met alone twice with Nordica Life insurance company Owner Allan Klotz, his Partner Dovi Steinbeck, and Djurgarden Invest CEO/PUBLISHER Roger Axmon during negotiations where **NYGG** attempted to acquire Nordica.

33. In approximately mid-March 2013, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** flew to Stockholm and represented **NYGG** at meetings with Emine Lundqvist, Esq. and Magdalena Huber, Esq. of Setterwalls Law Firm, as well as Marianne Ramel, Esq., Mats Borgstrom, Esq. and Peter Ihrfeldt, Esq. of DLA Nordic, to discuss **NYGG's** infrastructure. Plaintiff also represented **NYGG** at a meeting with Asa Bringholm and an associate from Forsman & Bodenfors (a marketing agency) to discuss **NYGG** branding and marketing strategy. During this same business trip, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** and **BENJAMIN WEY** met with blogger Janni Deler regarding prospective work writing for Defendant **FNL MEDIA's** TheBlot Magazine.

34. Unfortunately, during her employment, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** was also subjected

to virulent gender discrimination, *quid pro quo* sexual harassment, a sexually hostile work environment, and retaliation, as well as sexual assault, battery and the intentional infliction of emotional distress, and continues to be subjected to retaliation, including harassment and defamation.

**PLAINTIFF'S SPECIFIC ALLEGATIONS**

35. Approximately two weeks after she started at NYGG, in approximately mid-October 2013, Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** told Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** that her attire was inappropriate for the Wall Street workplace. Plaintiff, who dressed conservatively (she typically wore a pair of dark slacks, high-collared top, and suit jacket) was perplexed. Nevertheless, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** insisted on buying Plaintiff tight skirts, form-fitting dresses, and low-cut shirts, and further insisted that she wear those clothes to work, maintaining: "You won't have a career on Wall Street unless you dress for success." Plaintiff was surprised but initially appreciative.

36. Commencing approximately mid-October 2013 through late October 2013, Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** was increasingly complimentary regarding Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**'s appearance. Initially, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** thought the Chinese-born **BENJAMIN WEY**'s compliments were the consequence of cultural differences. However, as time wore on, she became increasingly uncomfortable with his unwanted attention.

37. Throughout her employment from October 2013 through on or about April 22, 2014, approximately weekly, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** placed his arm around Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**'s waist and kissed her on the cheek in the office. Plaintiff found this embarrassing.

38. In approximately late October 2013, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** accompanied

Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** on a business trip to Washington D.C. where they met and dined with **NYGG** lobbyist Adam Olsen. During the course of dinner and drinks, after **WEY** left the table for the restroom, Mr. Olsen told Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**: “Hanna, Benjamin is crazy about you!” Olsen then added: “He and his wife are in a bad way. They don’t have sex.” Plaintiff felt awkward, and refused to discuss the topic further.

39. Throughout the Fall of 2013, Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** insisted on purchasing tight clothes for Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** to wear to the office. When she resisted or refused the gifts, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** became hostile and irate, yelling: “You don’t think a resourceful, powerful guy like me can take care of you?” However, when she acquiesced, Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** made snide, derogatory remarks to Plaintiff, such as: “Hanna likes nice things” and “Hanna likes to shop!” **WEY**’s behavior was manipulative and abusive.

40. Commencing approximately October 2013 through on or about April 22, 2014, initially approximately two nights weekly, Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** insisted Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** accompany him out to dinner, purportedly to discuss business. At first these dinners included business associates from China and from various investment banks in New York such as Credit Suisse, and Plaintiff thought of these dinners as an exciting way to learn more about working on Wall Street. Unfortunately, as time progressed, Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** increasingly insisted Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** spend most if not all her evenings with him, both during the work week and on weekends, regardless of whether other business associates accompanied them. Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** also insisted Plaintiff accompany him to brunch, lunch, coffee and other

outings. Plaintiff felt increasingly annoyed, harassed, and trapped.

41. Commencing approximately November 2013 until her termination on or about April 22, 2014, Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** behaved in an increasingly lecherous manner toward Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**. For instance, Plaintiff repeatedly caught Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** ogling at her in the office.

42. Moreover, commencing approximately November 2013 until her termination on or about April 22, 2014, approximately daily, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** made inappropriate remarks concerning Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**'s appearance, including: "You look beautiful;" "You're gorgeous;" "You have a beautiful body;" "Hanna's so tall and thin;" and "Hanna doesn't need to go to Crunch (gym) because her body is so fit anyway." Plaintiff found **WEY**'s behavior and comments embarrassing, particularly when Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** made these remarks around her colleagues.

43. Commencing approximately November 2013 through the remainder of her employment, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** became increasingly physical toward Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**. For instance, whenever he approached, approximately multiple times daily, Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** placed his arm around her waist and drew Plaintiff toward him. Plaintiff resisted and did not reciprocate his advances, but nothing changed.

44. Commencing approximately November 2013 through on or about April 22, 2014, approximately daily, Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** complained to Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** concerning his unhappy marriage to employee Michaela Wey, whining: "I'm not happy at home;" "We sleep in different bedrooms;" "I have not kissed anyone in ten years;" and "I'm romantic but my wife is cold and harsh." Moreover, Defendant

CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** repeatedly compared Plaintiff to his wife, remarking: "Michaela is not nearly as good a marketer as you are!" These comments made Plaintiff feel very uncomfortable.

45. Commencing approximately November 2013 through the remainder of her employment, approximately daily, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** made increasingly amorous, consistently bizarre pronouncements to Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**, such as: "I am driven by passion. If it's not there I walk away;" "I am a passionate guy;" "I want to see you all the time;" "If I don't see you every day, I feel there is something missing!;" "I want to hang out with you;" "In two years you are going to want the world. If you stick with me, I'll give you everything;" and "If I didn't feel this for you, I wouldn't keep you here." Eventually, these comments included his constant badgering: "I want to kiss you;" and "I want to make love to you." Plaintiff did not share **WEY's** "passion," and did her best to brush off and ignore his declarations. She did not respond to his ravings.

46. On repeated occasions commencing in the Fall of 2013, Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** invited Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** and various industry colleagues to social/networking gatherings at his penthouse at the Ritz Carlton Battery Park. **WEY** often asked Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** to arrive early in order to set up and prepare for the events. Defendant's wife was never present during these gatherings.

47. On repeated occasions commencing approximately November 2013 when Plaintiff arrived early for the gatherings at Defendant CEO/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY's** penthouse, **WEY** told Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**: "I want to leave my wife for you;" "I'll leave Michaela for you if you just say so;" and "I want to change my life for you. I want a divorce." Plaintiff repeatedly told Defendant she was not interested in having a romantic and/or sexual relationship with him.

48. On repeated occasions in approximately Fall 2013, Defendant CEO/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** informed Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** that FIKA Co-Owner Lars Akerlund and FIKA Director of Strategy Lena Khoury did not like Plaintiff. At the same time, Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER **BENJAMIN WEY** assured Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** that he would “protect” her against all the people out to get her in the corporate world. Defendant repeatedly emphasized that Plaintiff could only advance her career by sticking close to him and following his tutelage. Plaintiff felt humiliated, confused, and concerned about her reputation.

49. In approximately early November 2013, Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** asked Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** to meet with Eriksen Translations CEO/PUBLISHER Vigdis Eriksen regarding a possible collaboration between Eriksen and Defendant **NYGG**. Ms. Eriksen had previously rejected **WEY**'s proposal, and Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** asked Plaintiff to persuade Ms. Eriksen that he was “her only chance to survive.”

50. In approximately early November 2013, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** met with Eriksen Translations CEO Vigdis Eriksen over breakfast at 2 West Restaurant, the restaurant at Defendant CEO/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY**'s residence in the Ritz Carlton Battery Park Hotel. Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** joined them approximately one hour later. Following the meeting, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** asked Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** to accompany him upstairs to his penthouse.

51. Once there, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** sat next to Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** on the couch, presumably to discuss the meeting with Eriksen Translations, but then began telling Plaintiff, “You’re so beautiful” and “I love blue eyes” and “I love girls with blue eyes” and “I used to love girls with blonde hair and blue eyes but now I love brunettes with blue eyes.” As he said

this, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** put his arm around Plaintiff's shoulders and tried to kiss her on the mouth. When Plaintiff turned her head, **WEY** kissed Plaintiff's neck. Plaintiff abruptly pulled away and said: "No." When Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** then said he wanted a girlfriend, Plaintiff responded that she was really focusing on her career, that she wanted to gain professional experience, and that she was not interested in being anyone's girlfriend.

Nevertheless, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** lunged toward Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** and kissed her on the neck again.

52. Immediately thereafter, in approximately early November 2013, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** stood up and told her boss she had to go back to the office. Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** balked, commanding: "No, it can wait!" When Plaintiff remained standing, **WEY** said "O.K., let's go," grabbed Plaintiff's hand and walked her toward the front door. Before reaching the door, however, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** suddenly pulled Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** into a bedroom, then towards him, grabbed and embraced her with both arms, and kissed her passionately on the neck. Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** pushed the CEO/PUBLISHER off, cried, "Hey, Ben stop! I don't want to do this," and stormed toward the door. The two then returned to the office. Plaintiff was repulsed.

53. On or about November 5, 2013, Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** summoned Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** to his office and asked how many hotel rooms he should book for their business trip to Boston the following day. Plaintiff was alarmed and felt extremely uncomfortable.

54. On or about November 6, 2013, after Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** finished his speaking engagement at Babson College, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** and **WEY** returned to the Boston Harbor Hotel and had dinner at the hotel's restaurant. **WEY** ordered a bottle of champagne.

During dinner, Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** discussed Plaintiff's bright future with the company, complimented how far she had come, and praised the number of meetings she had initiated with prominent family friends. At the same time, **WEY** repeatedly reached under the table and touched Plaintiff's thigh. Plaintiff was non-responsive to his sexual overtures.

55. Following dinner, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**, who was inebriated, discovered that Defendant had only booked one hotel room with a king bed. Once they entered the room, Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** kissed Plaintiff's neck and face. Plaintiff did not kiss him back. Despite Plaintiff's resistance, Defendant pushed her on the bed and undressed her, and attempted to have sexual intercourse with her. Plaintiff told him: "Stop." When Plaintiff saw that he did not have a condom, she continued to tell him to "Stop," and pushed against him. Defendant begged her to have sex with him without a condom, insisting he was "clean." Plaintiff continued to say, "Stop," telling **WEY** she did not want to have unprotected sex. Defendant finally stopped. Plaintiff, who was extremely upset, put on a large t-shirt and tights, turned her back to him, refused to speak to him further, and pretended to fall asleep. Defendant did not assault her again during their stay.

56. Commencing approximately November 2013, Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** repeatedly urged Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** to move out from the apartment she shared with friends to her own place in lower Manhattan. Plaintiff resisted, explaining that she enjoyed living with her friends and that at any rate she could not afford to live alone. However **WEY** was insistent, claiming that doing so would be "good for her career" and give her "the confidence you need to get ahead." He further pronounced: "Your friends aren't going anywhere. They're never going to have a career on Wall Street. You're the only one who

will!” Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** then promised that **NYGG** would help Plaintiff find an apartment.

57. In approximately late November 2013, Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** showed Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** an apartment he found at 25 Broad Street, a short walk from Defendant **NYGG**’s offices. Defendant told Plaintiff that **NYGG** would help her pay the additional costs of living alone at the apartment as part of her compensation, and that he would act as her guarantor. Assuming that meant Defendant **NYGG** was giving her a raise, Plaintiff agreed, and on or about December 1, 2013 moved into the apartment.

58. Commencing approximately the first week of December 2013 through January 2014, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** repeatedly asked Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** for the raise from **NYGG** he had promised so she could afford her apartment. (While she had netted \$800 per month when she shared an apartment with roommates, she now only netted \$500 monthly.) In response, **WEY** told Plaintiff: “It’s my money and your money anyway. You can always ask me for it.” Plaintiff did not want to be in the position of asking **WEY** for cash every time her rent was due. However, **WEY** refused to give her the raise he had promised.

59. During approximately the first week of December 2013, Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** invited himself over to Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**’s new apartment after work, claiming that he wanted to see the apartment and have a cup of tea. Once there, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** sat down on the couch next to Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** and commanded: “Come closer. Why don’t you sit next to me?” When Plaintiff complied, Defendant reached over and began massaging her shoulders and then kissing her neck. Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** once again told her boss: “No, I really don’t want

this.” Defendant left.

60. The following day at work, during approximately the first week of December 2013, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** glared at and refused to speak to Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**. Defendant continued this behavior until approximately mid-December 2013. Plaintiff worried that she was going to be fired, lose her apartment, and lose her J1 Visa.

61. In approximately mid-December 2013, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** accompanied CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** and Executive Chairman/General Counsel James Baxter on a business trip to China.

62. Approximately six days later, on or about December 16, 2013, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** and Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** flew on a business trip to Dubai to meet with a government economic council minister and the owner of Dubai’s third-largest construction company. When they arrived at the Atlantis Hotel, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** discovered once again that Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** had only booked one hotel room (under his Chinese name Tianbing Wei) for the two of them to share. Once again, the hotel room only had one bed.

63. On or about the night of December 16, 2013 in the Atlantis Hotel room, while Defendant was in the bathroom, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** put on a t-shirt and underwear, got into bed, and pretended she was asleep. Minutes later, Defendant /Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** climbed into the bed naked, repeatedly called out Plaintiff’s name, and pawed at her, but Plaintiff was non-responsive. Eventually **WEY** left her alone. The following morning Defendant complained bitterly: “How could you be so tired?”

64. On or about December 17, 2013, during the second night of their business trip to Dubai in the Atlantis Hotel, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** once again got into the bed before the

CEO/PUBLISHER/ Publisher. Dressed in a t-shirt and underwear, Plaintiff turned her back toward his side of bed, and feigned sleep. Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** subsequently got into the bed naked, hugged Plaintiff from behind, and pressed his erection against her. However, Plaintiff pulled away and snapped: “No, I’m tired.” Defendant stopped.

65. Commencing when they returned to the office on or about December 18, 2013 until he left for vacation the following week, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** was petulant and gave Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** “the silent treatment.” Plaintiff once again worried that she was going to be fired because she rejected her boss’s sexual advances.

66. In approximately late December 2013, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** returned from vacation and behaved toward Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** as if nothing had happened. Instead, Defendant asked her to dinner after work to discuss further business matters and her year-end bonus. During dinner at Bobo in the West Village, Defendant presented Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** with a \$2000 Prada bag as her year-end bonus from NYGG. Plaintiff informed the CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher that she would have preferred a cash bonus. During the dinner, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** also plied Plaintiff with drinks, and she became intoxicated.

67. Following dinner in approximately late December 2013, Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** insisted that he accompany the inebriated Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** to her apartment. Once inside her apartment, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** showed Plaintiff he had brought a box of condoms. Plaintiff felt trapped. Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** then forced Plaintiff to have sexual intercourse with him. Plaintiff was alarmed, disgusted, and devastated.

68. Thereafter, commencing approximately late December 2013 through her termination on or

about April 22, 2014, approximately daily, Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** asked Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** to go out to dinner with him. When Plaintiff declined, Defendant pouted and complained: "You never have time for me!"

69. Commencing approximately late December 2013 through her termination on or about April 22, 2014, approximately daily, Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** asked Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** to have sex with him. Plaintiff repeatedly refused.

70. On approximately three occasions thereafter from approximately January through early February 2014, Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** plied Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** with alcohol and, once she was intoxicated, forced her to have sexual intercourse with him. After the last episode in approximately early February 2014, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** remained steadfast in her refusal to succumb to **WEY**'s sexual advances, regardless of the consequences.

71. In direct retaliation for the same, Defendant CEO/ Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** became angry and repeatedly threatened not only to fire Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**, but to ensure that her reputation on Wall Street was ruined so that she would never work there again. Defendant further threatened to see that her J-1 Visa was pulled and she was kicked out of the United States.

72. Moreover, commencing approximately February 2014 through the present, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** began stalking Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** and her friends, and engaged in a bizarre and frightening pattern of retaliation and harassment.

73. On or about Saturday night, February 1, 2014, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** and some friends attended a Super Bowl party at Pier 11 in Manhattan. During the course of the evening, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** repeatedly texted Plaintiff. Plaintiff refused to respond.

74. The following morning, on or about Sunday February 2, 2014 at approximately 9:00 a.m.,

Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** was awakened at her apartment by Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY**, who was banging loudly on her door. When Plaintiff opened the door, **BENJAMIN WEY** claimed he was worried about Plaintiff. Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** told Defendant in no uncertain terms that she could not have a sexual relationship with him. Thereafter, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** became increasingly aggressive in his behavior toward her.

75. On or about February 15, 2014, Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** emailed Executive Chairman James Baxter (and cc'd Plaintiff) that while he foresaw Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** as a marketing executive for Nordica in the U.S. and Europe, she required extensive training first, and asked Mr. Baxter to train Plaintiff exhaustively so she was qualified by March. **WEY** added in pertinent part:

Some personnel and executive decisions shall be made pending the outcome of this training to see to what extent, if any, she is capable of adding value....

We are racing against time to build up the team. Those that qualify will stay and join the new business. Those not, will be placed in more appropriate roles.

Neither Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** nor anyone else at **NYGG** had previously questioned Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**'s skillset. Plaintiff felt intimidated.

76. Three days later, on or about February 18, 2014, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** emailed Executive Chairman James (and cc'd Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**) another retaliatory missive:

We need to urgently decide to what extent Hanna can be trained to the point that she can comfortably and professionally present the financial services and products, and to what level that she can be entrusted....

It is a very tall order. I think she has the potential to achieve it....

I do wish to see major improvement when I get back. She is smart and humble and willing to learn. And most importantly, both you and I trust her as a colleague. She is kind and loyal....

We have no time to lose. Please stay on top of this. I need to see results or we have to use more experienced people and assign her to a more suitable role.

Mr. Baxter responded that he would certainly conduct the “intensive and extensive training” **WEY** had requested, but remarked that “it is a very high goal and possibly unattainable in such a short time.”

77. On or about February 18, 2014, Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** emailed Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** the following retaliatory missive:

Frankly, I have provided you with a valuable training experience that we have never provided to others – one on one, designed just for you and devoted just to you, as you will be experiencing next week with the senior Wall Street expert Jim. We will learn to what extent and how quickly you can transform from a less focused, less effective, less valuable, free-spirited communications type to an effective and sophisticated financial product marketing executive. Hope you realize that we have spent significant financial resources and time resources to help you grow quickly professionally.

I don't think you should travel anywhere with me or on behalf of the firm until you are ready. Networking is important, however networking with the right crowd, with the right level of professional knowledge is powerful. Fun girls are a dime a dozen and many of them such as Nina will perhaps end up with not accomplishing much in life, going back to her home. Is that what you want? You are way above that. You have a real platform and a great lifestyle that many girls or guys will only envy to replace you or be in your position.

I have put my trust in you and hope you will live up to your full potential, and not disappoint me or yourself. Don't take my backing or support for granted. This is either a priority or nothing.

Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** felt threatened and compromised.

78. On repeated occasions commencing approximately mid-February 2014 until her termination on or about April 22, 2014, in direct retaliation for her constant refusal to have sexual relations with him, Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** emailed **NYGG** Executive Chairman/General Counsel James Baxter and Plaintiff's father in Sweden complaining that Plaintiff was "too unsophisticated" to continue working at **NYGG**, and suggesting that if Plaintiff did not increase her knowledge base, they would have to look for other staff. Plaintiff was devastated.

79. In approximately March 2014, following a gathering at Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY**'s penthouse when his wife was away, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** insisted on showing Plaintiff his wife's closet and collection of designer bags, including a \$66,000 Birkin bag he had bought his wife in Japan. In so doing, **WEY** commented: "One day this could all be yours!" Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** then asked Plaintiff to spend the night with him. Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** refused and went home.

80. In approximately late March 2014, after Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** had repeatedly declined Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY**'s propositions, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** yelled at her: "You have a sense of entitlement, you only want, want, want! You only see me as a checkbook! You have to create your own career, then you can do whatever you want!" When Plaintiff continued to refuse, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** screamed: "I'm the guy for you! I'm the only one who can help you with this! You'll never find anyone who can help you like I can! I've got a lot of resources! I'M THE TOP DOG ON WALL STREET!" Plaintiff was frightened.

81. On several occasions during approximately March 2014, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** was approached at the office by colleagues from Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY**'s on-line digital

publication "TheBlot Magazine," Editor-in-Chief Alicia Lu and Graphic Designer Yoni Weiss, and asked: "What's Ben doing to you? We see him grabbing you all the time!" and "Has he ever tried anything with you?" Plaintiff was mortified.

82. In approximately mid-April 2014, Defendant **NYGG** sent Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** for a brief training stint at Cambridge Alliance Capital, a company closely associated with Defendants **NYGG** and **BENJAMIN WEY**. During the course of a discussion with Partner Talman Harris regarding her training program at Cambridge Alliance Capital, Mr. Harris abruptly said: "I believe Ben wants the best for you. Ben loves you." Plaintiff felt humiliated and upset.

83. Around the same time, in approximately mid-April 2014, Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** referenced their "relationship," and told Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**: "By December first, if you don't know what you want to do, you'll be out of an apartment and a job!"

84. Approximately a few days later, in approximately mid-April 2014, Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/ Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** told Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** that if they did not have "an intimate relationship" by August 1, 2014, there was nothing else he could do for her, and he would have to let the apartment go to the new employees at **NYGG**.

85. In approximately mid-April 2014, Plaintiff's immediate supervisor **NYGG** Executive Chairman/General Counsel James Baxter told Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**: "It's unrealistic for Ben to have expectations that someone at your level would have the skills of someone who's been in banking for 30 years." At the same time, Mr. Baxter assured Plaintiff she was doing an "excellent" job.

86. On or about April 17, 2014, during her training at Cambridge Alliance Capital, Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** asked Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** to meet

him at Andaz for a quick beverage to discuss various business matters at the office. During this conversation, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** claimed that his wife Michaela Wey had dined with FIKA Director of Strategy Lena Khoury and discussed Plaintiff. **WEY** further claimed that when his wife said "Business in Europe is excellent and Hanna is doing an excellent job," Ms. Khoury responded: "Lars [Akerlund, FIKA Co-Owner] and I don't like Hanna. How can a high-class guy like Ben hang out with a gold-digger like Hanna?" **WEY** further explained: "They think you're a princess who feels entitled to everything and won't lift a finger to do anything." Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** then added: "I'm the only guy out there for you. I'm the only one you can trust, I'm the only one who can help you get ahead in the business world." Plaintiff felt distressed and humiliated.

87. In approximately mid-April 2014, approximately two weeks before she was fired, Executive Chairman/General Counsel James Baxter told Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**: "It's so great to step into the office because no matter how early I come in, you're always here before me with a smile on your face, ready to work!"

88. On or about April 21, 2014, **NYGG** Executive Chairman/General Counsel James Baxter told Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**: "Ben is bi-polar. He needs medication." Mr. Baxter added: "It's very hard to be legal counsel for a control freak." The Executive Chairman then told Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**: "You've been wonderful" and assured her he would give her a glowing job recommendation.

89. The following day, on or about April 22, 2014, in direct retaliation for her refusal to further submit to his sexual advances, Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** and Defendant **NYGG** fired Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**.

90. On or about April 22, 2014 at approximately 1:15 p.m., Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY**

showed up at Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**'s apartment, banged on the door shouting "Hanna," and, when she did not answer, used a key he obtained from the doorman and entered the apartment. Plaintiff was not home: she was at work undergoing training at Cambridge Alliance Capital. Her friend James, who had been sleeping on the couch, panicked and ran into the bedroom.

Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** stormed into the bedroom and went ballistic when he discovered James, shouting: "Who are you? What are you doing here? Are you Hanna's boyfriend? Did you fuck her?" Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** then said he owned the premises and told James he needed to leave immediately. James complied.

91. Shortly thereafter on or about April 22, 2014, Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** summoned Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** from Cambridge Alliance Capital at 99 Wall Street to meet him outside. Defendant then confronted Plaintiff in a sinister manner, asking: "Did you have a good time yesterday?" Plaintiff responded affirmatively. Defendant then told her he was just at her apartment and found a "Black man" there. Plaintiff said: "Yes, that's my friend James." Defendant then shouted at Plaintiff: "You fucking bitch! You're a liar. I want you out of the apartment today!"

92. Thereafter, on or about April 22, 2014, Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** called Cambridge Alliance Capital and instructed a secretary to bring Plaintiff's things downstairs. Defendant then told Plaintiff coldly: "I'm terminating your employment and no longer sponsoring your visa."

93. Thereafter, on or about April 22, 2014, Defendant escorted Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** to her building, and asked the Building Manager to accompany them to Plaintiff's apartment. The apartment was empty, and the embarrassed Building Manager was allowed to leave. However, Defendant refused to leave the premises until Plaintiff packed her things and left.

94. On or about April 22, 2014, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**'s friend Chemme "Doe," a Swedish student studying at Berkeley College in New York, came over to help Plaintiff pack. Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** pulled Chemme aside, told her how "betrayed" he felt, and offered Chemme a job and to sponsor her J-1 Visa when she finished her studies.

95. On or about April 22, 2014, as Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** and Chemme "Doe" left the apartment, Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** screamed at the top of his lungs: "You can tell that Black guy James to go fuck himself!" and slammed the door in their face.

96. Thereafter, Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** launched into a pattern of increasingly erratic and disturbing behavior, contacting Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** as well as her family and friends, informing them that she was associating and sleeping with "a Black man" and "dangerous criminal," and referencing a "sex scandal." Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** further informed Plaintiff's family and friends that she was terminated for cause due to her "alcohol abuse." Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY**'s statements, including emails and text messages, constitute defamation as well as retaliation and harassment.

97. On or about April 22, 2014 at 5:04 p.m., Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** emailed Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** and her father, reporting that "[t]he tough decision was made today to terminate Hanna's affiliation with our firm" and claiming in pertinent part:

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Hanna parities (*sic*) like crazy in New York. It appears that late night partying is her priorities (*sic*) in life. Work is not. You are a dedicated father and I hope you can help her. Unless her partying can be controlled, she has no career interest.

98. On or about April 22, 2014, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** emailed a lawyer friend of Plaintiff's falsely stating that his firm had terminated Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** "for cause," including: "dishonest acts and violations of professional conducts," "irresponsible behavior" including "extensive alcohol abuse, possible use of illegal substances, sleepy and alcohol hangover at work, partying at night almost daily till (*sic*) early morning hours, [and] associations with a criminal night club promoter," living a "double life" due to "a partying craze at night," and associating with a boyfriend who "sought medical attention for sexually transmitted diseases." Defendant **WEY** concluded: "Hanna does not have sufficient medical insurance coverage in the U.S."

99. On or about April 23, 2014, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** emailed Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**, cc'ing **NYGG** Executive Chairman and General Counsel James Baxter, and demanded that she immediately update her LinkedIn page regarding the end of her affiliation with **NYGG**, which he characterized as "perhaps your single and best opportunity in life." Plaintiff complied.

100. On or about April 23, 2014, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** emailed Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** and her father a second time, reported that he had a detective do a "quick investigation" regarding Plaintiff and James, and declared: "Hanna is wasting her life away and she put (*sic*) her life in serious danger." **WEY** concluded ominously: "She is smart and had great potential. I wanted her to be successful and we supported her in every possible way. She is not going to end well."

101. On or about April 23, 2014, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** emailed Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** and her father a third ominous note, providing in pertinent part:

I have provided you a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. I believe I have done you well. Let's stay friendly and I can help you. Whereever (*sic*) you are in NYC, stay safe. We have a few friends in law enforcement. If you are in crisis, keep my number handy.

Both Plaintiff and her father were alarmed by Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY**'s thinly-veiled threats.

102. On or about April 26, 2014, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** emailed Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** and her father in pertinent part:

What if that dirty and drunk club promoter "James" had infectious disease when he was found in your bed totally naked when the building manager and I found him? Do you really know him well? Do you know his background? Do you really know how many other girls like you he has slept with or stayed over with? Then why did you take him home?

And you did not even tell me? You were supposed to protect me from harm at all times? Remember?

You have treated me worst (*sic*) than a customer.

103. On or about April 28, 2014 at 6:28 a.m., Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** emailed Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** and her father and stated that the "official position" Defendant **NYGG** would take if anyone, including the U.S. State Department, inquired regarding Plaintiff's employment status was that she was terminated "for cause." **WEY** concluded threateningly: "This is my last email to you and we wish you the best of luck. At this point, luck is perhaps the only thing left for Hanna." Unfortunately, **WEY** lied: his emails and text messages continued.

104. On or about April 28, 2014 at approximately 5:30 p.m., Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** telephoned Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** on her cell phone using an "unknown" telephone

number, complained that she had “cheated” on him, and begged her to meet with him alone, preferably for dinner, at Per Se or any other restaurant or place she desired. Plaintiff refused.

105. On or about April 28, 2014 at approximately 9:44 p.m., under the guise of NYGG’s “Legal and Regulatory Compliance Department,” Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** emailed a list of NYGG business contacts, including Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**’s friend Chemme “Doe,” that Plaintiff’s employment and visa sponsorship were terminated “for cause,” due to “dishonest acts, possible illegal drug use or lies that could expose us to potential violations of laws and regulations.” This email was defamatory and retaliatory.

106. On or about April 28, 2014, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** emailed Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**’s 20-year-old brother in pertinent part:

Your sister is a very talented person; smart and strong. That was the reason we hired her. Somehow she has been partying like crazy in New York with the wrong people, and brought risks to our business. We suspect this club promoter male friend of hers, the one she was dating, may be also involved in drugs. The man has many girls and I worry Hanna may get AIDS or other diseases from the man. Hanna has no medical insurance in New York. Risk, risk, and high risk. That’s all Take care.

Plaintiff’s brother was scared for his sister’s wellbeing.

107. On or about April 28, 2014, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** asked Peter Byrnes, owner of Lugh Studio, Inc., to hire Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** as Product Manager to develop a website for NYGG. During her employment with NYGG, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** had met with Peter Byrnes on several occasions on behalf of NYGG where they discussed TheBlot Magazine.

108. On or about April 29, 2014 at approximately 5:15 p.m., Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** left a voicemail message on Plaintiff’s phone asking her out to dinner and begging her to meet with

him. Plaintiff did not respond.

109. On or about April 29, 2014 at approximately 5:20 p.m., Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** sent Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**, her father Nils Sundqvist, and their family friend Lars Forseth, CEO of Manpower Sweden, Inc. (an employee staffing agency in Sweden), an email with the subject line, “Hanna Bouveng was terminated and her alcohol abuses caught on video.” The email provided in pertinent part:

After extensive investigations by former police detectives, I firmly believe Hanna is in serious trouble here in New York. If you still want to save her, you should recognize the fact that you should get her back to Sweden. Her employment with our firm was terminated on February (*sic*) 22 due to lies and unprofessional conducts.

We have CCTV videos of Hanna living and partying with her black man night club promoter boyfriend, James .... They have an intimate and sexual relationship, together with Hanna’s girlfriend in NYC, another Swedish girl named Chemme .....

....

Background: Hanna lives a double life in New York: In the daytime she was an assistant to us, at night she became an alcoholic and party animal. Her boyfriend James is the provider of Hanna’s partying and alcohol, in return, he got sex from Hanna and other club girls. ....

It’s important the media and newspapers are not aware of the drug, alcohol and sex scandal that could kill Hanna’s aunt Helena Bouveng’s political career. New York media loves these types of sensational stories – a black man night club promoter having sex with Swedish girls in exchange for alcohol and illegal drugs. A reporter from the New York Post, a tabloid, is poking around this story.

Let me know if we need to do anything to help. Hanna has been a very disappointing experience as our intern. Our firm has a zero tolerance policy for alcohol abuse, illegal drugs and violations of professional conducts (*sic*). Only you can save her. Get her home to Sweden and start her life afresh. I wish you all the best.

Contrary to **WEY**’s assertions, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** was not an alcoholic, not a “party

animal,” not doing illegal drugs, not in a sexual relationship with her friend Chemme, and not fired for any professional misconduct. **WEY**’s statements were libelous. Instead, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** was fired in direct retaliation for her refusal to further succumb to her boss’ ongoing sexual advances.

110. Shortly thereafter, on or about the evening of April 29, 2014, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**’s lawyers emailed Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** demanding, among other things, that he cease and desist his ongoing retaliatory harassment of Plaintiff. He did not stop.

111. On or about April 30, 2014 at 12:48 a.m., Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** emailed Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**, her father and her friend Chemme another rant with the subject line “Are you looking at yourself in the mirror?” The email read in pertinent part:

I am really not interested or certainly not afraid of a ‘fight’ with you. You are still a child, thinking like a 15 year old teenager. Your employment was terminated by us on April 22, which you will have to leave the U.S. around May 22....

Are you looking in the mirror? Late night partying and excessive alcohol will kill your youth. Have you looked at your face lately? More wrinkles everywhere, particularly the forehead, isn’t it? Wait another two years they will get worse. Alcohol abuse and lack of sleep due to your regular late night partying will turn a young face into a witch. Someday you will regret your actions occurring today.

Hanna, I could never understand how a talented young lady like Hanna would date a ...night club promoter that kisses or fucks hundreds of other girls. How many other girls does your friend [James] sleep with? Do you know? Wake up Hanna, was it better sex or better alcohol that kept you blind, or were you looking for someone to lean on for “love”?....

...

... Do you want a guy like that? Does he give you better sex or

more alcohol?

...

Hanna and Chemme: Let me share with you about the American way of court proceedings. In a lawsuit, all of Hanna's dirty laundry will come out to become public information, the same dirty laundry will come out for Chemme's and [James'] drugs, prostitution, lies, sex, night clubs, alcohol, violence... Particularly for Chemme, a college student. You think your university may like that your dirty laundry? (*sic*) Are you ready to deal with massive public negativity? We are. Also, a lawsuit would easily cost you more than \$100,000, are you ready to pay for that? We have been in plenty of lawsuits. Nothing scares me. We have the facts.

...

Hanna, is alcohol and partying worth throwing your promising life away? Are you one of 200+ girls that James is having sex and drinking alcohol and kissing every month? You were nobody for James and you were an important member of our firm....

112. Approximately thirty minutes later, on or about April 30, 2014 at 1:15 a.m., Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** sent yet another email to Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**, her father and her friend Chemme "Doe," that proclaimed "Hanna has lost her Wall Street future" and concluded ominously: "Unless I run into Hanna in future for any unforeseen reason, I wish her luck in the pursuit of her fantasies. It is her life that only she should care about."

113. On or about May 2, 2014, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** sent Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** a "friend request" on Facebook. When Plaintiff was non-responsive, Defendant **WEY** sent "friend requests" to several of Plaintiff's friends that he had never met.

114. On or about May 3, 2014, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** emailed two of Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG's** family friends (both of whom are from prominent families in Europe) an

email with the subject line: "Hanna Bouveng was terminated by us." **WEY**'s email falsely provided in pertinent part: "Hanna was terminated for cause" due to "dishonest acts," including "alcohol abuse" and leading a "double life" as a "partying animal at night." **WEY** concluded, "Hanna's promising career on Wall Street with our firm was destroyed due to such irresponsible behavior" and added that she was "now wasted on alcohol." In so doing, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** again defamed Plaintiff's reputation and character.

115. On or about May 4, 2014, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** emailed Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**, referencing "how GREAT and TALENTED... SMART AND BRILLIANT" she was, how she was "so talented in summarizing a complex matter," and stating that he would like to help find her professional relationships with Swedish companies working in the United States, would like to invite her to a "business lunch," and was wondering if she was interested in accompanying him on "a deal trip" to Hawaii. **WEY** also wrote: "The past between us is all behind us. That's how I feel about you."

116. On or about May 5, 2014 at approximately 5:41 p.m., Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** texted Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** a photo of himself, Plaintiff and Princess Madeleine of Sweden with the message: "Photo: This was the Hanna I appreciated: Promising, loyal to me, wishing to achieve the very best, associating with only the very best people. You still can!! I am here to help. You don't have to struggle. Life is too short."

117. On or about May 7, 2014, Defendant CEO/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** sent the following threatening text to Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**'s friend Chemme "Doe":

Reporters would like to interview you and your friends to finalize a couple of featured opinion articles about nightlife in new york (*sic*) for Swedes. The opinions will be published in both English and swedish (*sic*) languages. You are invited to express your views. Google search results should be massive exposure for you. When are

u (sic) available? The publishing deadline is this Thursday May 8. Thank you.

Chemme, the last time you said this on april (sic) 28 on the record: "What I do, where I'm at, where I'm going, and who I'm with has never been a question of keeping up an image. Who I am is between me and God, so I couldn't care less how you or anyone else choose (sic) to perceive me." *Since it does not sound like you care about your public image and there are many photos of you partying with a swedish (sic) girlfriend whose lover is a man with an arrest record, it will be beneficial for you to tell your side of the story? You are given an opportunity here. Don't miss it.*

If you do not comment, the opinions (sic) pieces will come out stating you have refused to comment. If you or your girlfriend may or may not like the articles (sic), it will be impossible then to change once it is published. This is the First Amendment right...

118. On or about May 16, 2014, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** summoned the entire office at **NYGG** to a meeting where he announced that he wanted TheBlot Magazine to publish a series of seven-eight articles about "Swedish girls" that come to New York to "do drugs, drink, and party all the time" and how those activities effected their jobs. Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** further announced that he had hired a former FBI agent to investigate the illegal drug activities of young Swedish girls in New York or, as he phrased it, "crazy drug-addicted Swedish party girls that need to be fired because they party all the time."

119. On or about June 5, 2014, Defendants' TheBlot Magazine emailed the CEO of Upton Realty Group where Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** previously worked as an intern: "We are interested in learning about Ms. Bouveng's extensive night club ventures" and "your view of her as an employee, and your firm's policies governing employee conducts (sic): alcohol and controlled substance."

120. On or about July 18, 2014, Defendant CEO/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** posted on Facebook:

Our journalists are completing multiple investigative articles and graphic photos on night club promoters and their captured club girls involved in alcohol and drug dealing. If we have to publish them, we will! At least half a million readers a month, in Swedish and other languages, go viral worldwide.... With the push of a button, articles will appear in top search results on Google, in multiple languages, anywhere across the globe....

121. On or about July 22, 2014, Defendant CEO/ Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** text messaged Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**'s friend Nina "Doe," under the guise of "Investigative Reporting:" "Did you know that Hanna Bouveng has provided your emails to her, as "witness"? You could be called a witness in court, that would be public knowledge and spread across the internet.

Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** continued: "Hanna hired a personal injury lawyer and sued us for \$10 million. Do you know why? And the extent of your communications with her? In a lawsuit, all of everyone's communications: email, text messages etc. will all become public, unfortunately. We told her to go away, and she instead sued us."

122. On or about July 22, 2014, after informing Nina "Doe" regarding Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**'s lawsuit, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** attached a series of photos of Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** along with a stock pornographic image to his text message. Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** then expressly threatened Nina "Doe:" "I see you have a good job. I know a senior executive at your company. In my opinion this is not your fight, let me know if you want to get involved. Whatever you share or pass along to Hanna, will be a record in court filings."

Defendant CEO/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** concluded: "Unless she drops this frivolous lawsuit, our investigations into her activities and those of her friends will go forever."

123. Commencing on or about July 22, 2014, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** began posting a series of Facebook messages and photographs, tagging Plaintiff's friends on the photos. While a few of the photos showed Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**'s face, they were accompanied by stock

Our journalists are completing multiple investigative articles and graphic photos on night club promoters and their captured club girls involved in alcohol and drug dealing. If we have to publish them, we will! At least half a million readers a month, in Swedish and other languages, go viral worldwide.... With the push of a button, articles will appear in top search results on Google, in multiple languages, anywhere across the globe....

121. On or about July 22, 2014, Defendant CEO/ Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** text messaged Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**'s friend Nina "Doe," under the guise of "Investigative Reporting:" "Did you know that Hanna Bouveng has provided your emails to her, as "witness"? You could be called a witness in court, that would be public knowledge and spread across the internet.

Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** continued: "Hanna hired a personal injury lawyer and sued us for \$10 million. Do you know why? And the extent of your communications with her? In a lawsuit, all of everyone's communications: email, text messages etc. will all become public, unfortunately. We told her to go away, and she instead sued us."

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123. Commencing on or about July 22, 2014, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** began posting a series of Facebook messages and photographs, tagging Plaintiff's friends on the photos. While a few of the photos showed Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**'s face, they were accompanied by stock

photos containing explicit pornographic images and images of individuals doing illicit drugs.

None of the latter photographs depicted Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** or her friends. These messages and postings were defamatory and retaliatory.

124. Commencing on or about July 22, 2014, Defendant CEO/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY** began a series of ongoing postings of photographs of Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** and others, tagging Plaintiff's father, brother, aunt and friends with various defamatory, harassing and intimidating messages. All of these postings were designed to deter Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** from pursuing this lawsuit, and to deter Plaintiff's family and friends from testifying on her behalf and/or against Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** and his companies.

125. For instance, beneath one photo of Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** wrote: "We do not accept extortion from anyone. Terminated Alcoholic Hanna Bouveng." Another message read: "Extortion attempt from the drug dealer affiliation Hanna Bouveng never scares us. And we will expose such a fraud." The tag also contained a stock photo of a woman snorting a cocaine-like substance off another woman's breast.

126. On or about July 23, 2014, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** tagged many of Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**'s friends when he posted yet another photograph of Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** with the slur: "Alcoholic."

127. In approximately mid-July, 2014, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** texted Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**'s Aunt Helena Bouveng, a Swedish Parliament Member, a series of threatening texts that provided in pertinent part: "You can help here if we all want to have peace..... Do you swedes (*sic*) like or accept extortion?"

128. On or about July 24, 2014, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** texted Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**'s Aunt Helena Bouveng the following threat:

Helena, we think it is for *(sic)* all of our best interest *(sic)* to help solve the hanna *(sic)* problem. It is not just our concern, it is a problem for you, your party, your business, our business.

As a consequence of these threats, and the repeated mention of her name in the defamatory articles, Plaintiff's aunt repeatedly suggested to Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** that she drop the lawsuit and remain in Sweden where she would be, purportedly, safe.

129. Commencing on or about July 24, 2014 through approximately the present, Defendants **NYGG** and Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** commenced publishing a series of retaliatory and defamatory articles concerning Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** in its digital publication, TheBlot Magazine. On information and belief, these articles were and continue to be written and/or edited by Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY**.

130. Commencing on or about July 24, 2014 through approximately the present, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** continued to email and text Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**'s family and friends. Significantly, these emails and texts often include links to Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY**'s Facebook page and to Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY**'s "investigative journalist articles" in Defendants' TheBlot Magazine. These articles often included stock photos of individuals ingesting illegal drugs, carrying weapons, and engaging in pornographic acts.

131. On or about July 24, 2014, Defendants **NYGG** and Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** published an article in TheBlot Magazine entitled: "Want to Trap Swedish Women? Ask Criminal James Chauvet." Defendants' article mischaracterizes Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** as "a Swedish party girl who had just landed in New York's nightclubs after a year of providing 'entertainment' in the nightclubs and casino houses of Hong Kong and Macau." Defendants further falsely implied that Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** is a prostitute and that "in or outside

that jail cell on New York's Riker Island prison, one shouldn't be surprised to find the Swedish girl Hanna Bouveng someday." The article also identified and featured photographs of Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**'s father, aunt, and 20-year-old brother. On information and belief, this article was written and/or edited by Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY**.

132. On or about July 29, 2014, Defendants **NYGG** and Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** published yet another retaliatory and defamatory article in TheBlot Magazine describing **HANNA BOUVENG** as "a loose woman, a Swedish party girl tainted with allegations of prostitution, alcoholism and affiliations with drug dealers" who was "well-trained in the night clubs and massage parlors of Hong Kong" and "allegedly has a history of alcohol abuse and tight affiliations with New York's Haitian cocaine dealer network.") In addition, Defendants used this article to defame Plaintiff's lawyers. On information and belief, this article was written and/or edited by Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY**.

133. On or about July 30, 2014, Defendants **NYGG** and Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** published an article in TheBlot Magazine entitled: "BURNED: Swedish Party Girl Hanna Bouveng Swims in Criminal Hot Water." The article began: "Of the many young Swedish women aspiring to be the next Lindsay Lohan, a party girl named Hanna Bouveng stood out in the crowd vying for the attention of drug dealers and male patrons ready to pay for some special services at a price." The article falsely "reported" that Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** spent "six months walking the streets of Hong Kong and entertaining visitors to the massage parlors" before she "had some run-ins with the local Asian triads and had to leave Asia 'in a hurry.'" The article further falsely alleged that Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** "fled to New York," was "unable to complete a degree program," and "was searching for 'gold' in the streets of New York.'" The article further falsely stated that Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** is an "alcoholic"

who takes “drugs” and had sex with a man “in a nasty bathroom allegedly filled with needles.” On information and belief, this article was written and/or edited by Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY**.

134. On or about July 30, 2014, the same article published by Defendants **NYGG** and Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** once again identified Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**’s father as well as her aunt Helena Bouveng, Swedish parliament member (and featured a photo of the latter.) The article stated: “Readers may wonder to what extent the Hanna Bouveng’s affiliation with cocaine dealers may affect Helena Bouveng’s already tough re-election campaign.”

135. On information and belief, commencing approximately July 2014 through the present, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** has also used and continues to use Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**’s name to “cybersquat,” i.e., create a website under her name that contains the same disturbing and misleading photographs and articles published by Defendants **NYGG** and **BENJAMIN WEY** in TheBlot Magazine.

136. On or about August 1, 2014, a hearing was held before this Court concerning Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**’s request for protective relief via a restraining order to prevent further harassment from Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY**. During the course of this hearing, Plaintiff’s counsel informed the Court (and thus Defendants’ counsel) that Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** had left New York and returned to Sweden because she and her family were afraid of Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY**.

137. Within hours of that hearing, on or about August 1, 2014, Defendants **NYGG** and Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** published yet another defamatory article concerning Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** entitled: “BREAKING NEWS: Sexual Harassment Accuser Hanna

Bouveng Fled America” and featuring a photograph of **HANNA BOUVENG** and James Chauvet next to a photograph depicting lines of cocaine with the caption: “BUSTED.” The article falsely “reported” that Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** “was in the United States on (*sic*) illegal visa” and that “Hanna Bouveng’s status would be a serious visa violation subject (*sic*) her to immediate arrest and deportation.” Id. The article further falsely claimed Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** had been unable to earn a degree at Berkeley College, and had been “running” around since she was 15-years-old. On information and belief, this article was written and/or edited by Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY**.

138. On or about August 1, 2014, Defendants **NYGG** and Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** published with its “BREAKING NEWS: Sexual Harassment Accuser Hanna Bouveng Fled America” article scripted comments from falsely identified individuals, including purportedly one of Plaintiff’s lawyers, that were retaliatory and/or defamatory and/or harassing and/or intimidating to Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**. For instance, one comment read: “Hanna Bouveng left the U.S.? Which legitimate person would do that if she had a real case? Who is she hiding from? From the truth? It sure seems like it.” On information and belief, these comments were written and/or edited by Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY**.

139. On or about August 1, 2014, Defendants **NYGG** and Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** published yet another article in TheBlot Magazine entitled: “Wall Street Financier Benjamin Wey Fights Back At Fugitive Hanna Bouveng.” This article falsely claimed that after learning she was subject to immediate arrest and deportation for entering the United States illegally, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** “packed up her belongings and fled America,” and “evaded responsibilities and America’s judicial justice, after having falsely accused a Wall Street financier Benjamin Wey of ‘sexual harassment.’” The article further falsely claimed to quote Plaintiff

**HANNA BOUVENG's** aunt, Swedish Parliament member Helena Bouveng. On information and belief, the article was written and/or edited by Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY**.

140. On or about August 1, 2014 at approximately 5:00 p.m., Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** posted on his Facebook page TheBlot Magazine article published by Defendants **NYGG** and Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** entitled: "Wall Street Financier Benjamin Wey Fights Back At Fugitive Hanna Bouveng."

141. On or about August 3, 2014, using a false email address, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** emailed directly to Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** yet another TheBlot article published by Defendants **NYGG** and Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** entitled: "RACIST? NY Daily News Writer BARBARA ROSS Fabricated a Judge's Order to Create 'News.'" The article described the lawsuits of Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** and Yonatan Weiss (a co-worker who was fired after corroborating **HANNA BOUVENG's** allegations to lawyers investigating her allegations) as "an extortion attempt." The article further noted that Defendants **BENJAMIN WEY** and **NYGG** were "preparing a countersuit," and falsely claimed "Bouveng was fired for alcohol abuse, drug use and connections with drug dealers."

142. Between approximately August 10, 2014 through August 14, 2014, Defendants **NYGG**, and **BENJAMIN WEY** continued to publish scripted comments that defamed Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG's** lawyers, describing the firm as "shady" "ambulance chasers," "a bunch of scumbags," and "low lives (*sic*)," and "as bad and dirty as it gets." On information and belief, these comments were written and/or edited by Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY**.

143. On or about August 14, 2014, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** used a false email address to email yet another defamatory article published by Defendants **NYGG** and Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** regarding Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** to Lars Forseth, CEO of

Manpower Sweden, Inc. Manpower Sweden, Inc. is the largest employment placement agency in Sweden. On information and belief, this article was written and/or edited by Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY**.

144. During approximately August 2014, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** posted the foregoing BlotMagazine articles published by Defendants **NYGG** and Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** on three newly created internet sites: [www.prnation.org](http://www.prnation.org), <http://upandcomingmogul.com>, and <http://www.arfadia.com>. On information and belief, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** is the owner and/or sponsor and/or creator of those internet sites.

145. The defamatory articles and comments published by Defendants **NYGG** and Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** had and continue to have an intimidating effect on potential witnesses in this litigation. For instance, in approximately August 2014, Plaintiff's friend Sophie "Doe" text messaged Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** as follows:

Hanna I'm really concerned about this once again. He wrote another article today! He mentioned my name which is linked straight to my Instagram if you push it. Says I'm willing to lie on your behalf and I'll face consequences of perjury and jail time?!!! Straight up threats now! As you know I have the new job I love and I'm very worried if anybody from my company or anyone who knows me at all reads these insane lies about me!! It's scary and very unnerving!

Ms. "Doe" added: "[H]e keeps trashing my name. And I have a job. One and only. That feeds me. And they are very conservative. If they see smth (*sic*) like that I have a red flag! No one seems to stop him!"

146. On or about August 15, 2014, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** travelled to Sweden.

147. On or about August 19, 2014, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** and four men (two of whom – Talman Harris and Williams Scholander - are partners from Cambridge Alliance Capital in New York) showed up at Vetlanda Stadshotell, the only bar in Plaintiff's hometown (pop.

28,000) in Sweden. Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** and his cohorts then approached Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**'s 19-year-old cousin Jessika (Aunt Helena's daughter), attempted to ply her with drinks, and asked her about Plaintiff. Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** and his cohorts similarly approached several of Plaintiff's other friends and acquaintances at the bar.

148. On or about August 23, 2014, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** learned that Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** was in Sweden, had gone to her hometown, had approached her cousin as well as some of her friends and acquaintances, and was asking about her. Plaintiff was terrified.

149. On or about August 24, 2014, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** went to the Sodermalm Police Station in Central Stockholm and reported Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY**'s ongoing harassment, intimidation, threatening behavior and stalking. Plaintiff applied for a restraining order, requested counsel, and requested support from the police safety group. The Sodermalm Police Department processed Plaintiff's application for a protective order, offered to escort her home, and suggested she stay in a hotel room rather than her current residence.

150. The following day, on or about August 25, 2014 at approximately 1:00 p.m., Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** showed up in Stockholm at Cafe Linne, a coffeehouse owned by Chemme "Doe's" family where Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** was at the time. Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** was unaware Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** was in the coffeehouse until she saw him on the main floor. When Plaintiff spotted him, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** stared at Plaintiff lecherously and said in a creepy voice: "Wow." **HANNA BOUVENG** ran back to the kitchen. The owners escorted Defendant **WEY** from the building.

151. On or about August 25, 2014, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** reported to the Sodermalm Police Station in Central Stockholm that Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** had just approached her at the café.

152. On or about August 26, 2014, the Stockholm Police Department provided Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** with a surveillance alarm phone. Plaintiff was instructed to immediately push the button if she saw Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY**, and was told the police would promptly come to her assistance. Plaintiff was also informed the Police were monitoring the Stockholm airport to see if Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** had attempted to leave the country.

153. On or about August 28, 2014, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** and Defendants **NYGG** and **BENJAMIN WEY** reached an Agreement intended to stop Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY**'s ongoing harassment of Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** and her family, friends and lawyers. (*See attached* Ex. A, Agreement.) By the terms of this Agreement, Defendants **NYGG** and **WEY** were to stop posting and remove all negative postings concerning Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** and her lawyers, as well as articles concerning prospective witnesses in this case. (Ex. A, Agreement at par. 3a.) The Agreement further contained a liquidated damages clause dictating that Defendant **WEY** pay Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** \$10,000 for every violation of paragraph 3a of the Agreement. (Ex. A, Agreement at par. 7.)

154. On or about September 17, 2014, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** discovered that Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** had violated paragraph 3a of the Agreement four times by continuing to publish offensive, defamatory and retaliatory articles about her. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Defendant **WEY** refused to pay the \$40,000 liquidated damages then owed.

155. Since on or about September 17, 2014, Defendants **NYGG** and Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** have repeatedly violated the Agreement by repeatedly publishing highly offensive, defamatory, threatening and retaliatory articles about Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**, about prospective witnesses in this case, and about her lawyers. On information and belief, these articles are written and/or edited by Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY**.

156. Since approximately September 17, 2014, Defendants **NYGG** and Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** have repeatedly violated the Agreement by publishing *at least* eight more highly offensive, defamatory, threatening and retaliatory articles to date in TheBlot Magazine. Defendant has also repeatedly posted those articles on his Twitter account.

157. On or about October 2, 2014, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** commenced a frivolous lawsuit against Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** in New York County Supreme Court that alleged Plaintiff fraudulently induced **WEY** to enter the Agreement and subsequently breached the Agreement (referencing articles published or posted by third-parties based upon public pleadings in this case.) That action, *Benjamin Wey v. Hanna Bouveng* (N.Y.Sup. Index No. 159673/2014) was subsequently properly removed to this Court.

158. On or about October 20, 2014, Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY** further harassed Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** and attempted to intimidate potential witnesses in this case by delivering copies of that complaint to the respective homes of Plaintiff's father in Sweden and friend Chemme "Doe" in New York City with an anonymous cover letter that read: "YOU HAVE BEEN SUED IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK. ATTACHED IS A COMPLAINT THAT HAS BEEN FILED AGAINST YOU – A PUBLIC RECORD." Defendant is aware that Plaintiff is residing in Sweden. The underlying intent of this correspondence was to intimidate prospective witnesses in this case, and to further retaliate, harass and intimidate against Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**.

159. As a consequence of this *quid pro quo* sexual harassment, sexually hostile work environment, gender discrimination and retaliation that culminated in her termination, as well as this sexual assault, battery, intentional infliction of emotional distress, and defamation, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** has suffered and continues to suffer severe emotional distress, including

depression, anxiety, panic attacks, nightmares, sleep disturbance, crying jags, and upset. Moreover, Plaintiff has suffered significant economic loss and damage to her reputation. Moreover, Plaintiff has suffered damages as a consequence of Defendants' breach of the aforementioned Agreement.

160. The allegations set forth above and below are incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

**AS AND FOR A FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**  
**NYSHRL - QUID PRO QUO SEXUAL HARASSMENT**

161 Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** repeats and realleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs 1 through 160 inclusive, with the same force and effect as though more fully set forth at length herein.

162. The aforesaid acts of intentional sexual harassment perpetrated by Defendant CEO/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY**, the highest-ranking officer, director, supervisor, manager, and/or employee of Defendant **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC**, and the aforesaid acts of retaliation by Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER **BENJAMIN WEY** and Defendant **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC** for Plaintiff's failure to comply with Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER **BENJAMIN WEY**'s sexual advances and his sexually inappropriate conduct, violated Plaintiff's rights as provided under New York State Human Rights Law - Executive Law Section 290 *et. seq.*

163. As a consequence of Defendants' *quid pro quo* sexual harassment, including the retaliation against Plaintiff for refusing to further succumb to her supervisor's sexual advances, during Plaintiff's employment with Defendant **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK**

**GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC**, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** has sustained and continues to sustain conscious pain and suffering, physical injury, great mental distress, shock, fright and humiliation. In addition, Plaintiff has incurred and continues to incur monetary loss as she was subjected to adverse employment actions, including the termination of her employment.

164. As a consequence of the foregoing misconduct of Defendants **BENJAMIN WEY** and **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC**, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** is entitled to damages under 15 N.Y. Exec. Law Section 297(4)(c) in the amount of TWENTY-FIVE MILLION (\$25,000,000.00) DOLLARS.

**AS AND FOR A SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**  
**NYCHRL - QUID PRO QUO SEXUAL HARASSMENT**

165. Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** repeats and realleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs 1 through 160 inclusive, with the same force and effect as though more fully set forth at length herein.

166. The aforesaid acts of intentional sexual harassment perpetrated by Plaintiff's boss, Defendant CEO/Publisher **BENJAMIN WEY**, the highest-ranking officer, director, supervisor, manager, and/or employee of Defendant **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC**, and the aforesaid acts of retaliation by CEO/PUBLISHER **BENJAMIN WEY** and Defendant **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC** for Plaintiff's failure to comply with Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER **BENJAMIN WEY**'s sexual advances and his sexually inappropriate conduct, violated Plaintiff's rights as provided under New York City Human Rights Law Title 8 ("NYCHRL"), *et. seq.*

167. As a consequence of Defendants' *quid pro quo* sexual harassment, including the

retaliation against Plaintiff for refusing to further succumb to her supervisor's sexual advances, during Plaintiff's employment with Defendant **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC**, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** has sustained and continues to sustain conscious pain and suffering, physical injury, great mental distress, shock, fright and humiliation. In addition, Plaintiff has incurred and continues to incur monetary loss as she was subjected to adverse employment actions, including the termination of her employment.

168. As a consequence of the foregoing misconduct of Defendants **BENJAMIN WEY** and **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC**, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** is entitled to compensatory damages and punitive damages in the sum prescribed by NYC Human Rights Law Title 8, et. seq., i.e., compensatory damages of TWENTY-FIVE MILLION (\$25,000,000.00 ) DOLLARS and punitive damages of FIFTY MILLION (\$50,000,000.00) DOLLARS, as well as attorneys' fees.

**AS AND FOR A THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION**  
**NYSHRL - SEXUALLY HOSTILE WORK ENVIRONMENT**

169. Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** repeats and realleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs 1 through 160 inclusive, with the same force and effect as though more fully set forth at length herein.

170. The sexually hostile work environment for women created, perpetuated, encouraged, and maintained by Defendants **BENJAMIN WEY** and **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC**, its officers, directors, supervisors, managers and/or employees, violated Plaintiff's rights as provided under New York State Human Rights Law – Executive Law Section 290 et. seq.

171. As a consequence of the sexually hostile work environment created, perpetuated

and condoned by Defendants during Plaintiff's employment with Defendant **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC**, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** has sustained and continues to sustain physical injury, conscious pain and suffering, physical injury, great mental distress, shock, fright and humiliation. In addition, Plaintiff has incurred and continues to incur monetary loss as she was subjected to adverse employment actions, including the termination of her employment.

172. As a consequence of the foregoing misconduct of Defendants **BENJAMIN WEY** and **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC**, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** is entitled to damages under 15 N.Y. Exec. Law Section 297(4)(c) in the amount of TWENTY-FIVE MILLION (\$25,000,000.00) DOLLARS.

**AS AND FOR A FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION**  
**NYCHRL - SEXUALLY HOSTILE WORK ENVIRONMENT**

173. Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** repeats and realleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs 1 through 160 inclusive, with the same force and effect as though more fully set forth at length herein.

174. The sexually hostile work environment for women created, perpetuated, encouraged, and maintained by Defendants **BENJAMIN WEY** and **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC**, its officers, directors, supervisors, managers and/or employees, violated Plaintiff's rights as provided under New York City Human Rights Law Title 8 ("NYCHRL"), *et. seq.*

175. As a consequence of the sexually hostile work environment created, perpetuated and condoned by Defendants during Plaintiff's employment with Defendant **NYG CAPITAL**

**LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP and FNL MEDIA LLC, Plaintiff HANNA BOUVENG** has sustained and continues to sustain physical injury, conscious pain and suffering, physical injury, great mental distress, shock, fright and humiliation. In addition, Plaintiff has incurred and continues to incur monetary loss as she was subjected to adverse employment actions, including the termination of her employment.

176. As a consequence of the foregoing misconduct of Defendants **BENJAMIN WEY** and **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP and FNL MEDIA LLC**, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** is entitled to damages in the sum prescribed by NYC Human Rights Law Title 8, et. seq., i.e., compensatory damages of TWENTY-FIVE MILLION (\$25,000,000.00 ) DOLLARS and punitive damages of FIFTY MILLION (\$50,000,000.00) DOLLARS, as well as attorneys' fees.

**AS AND FOR AN FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION**  
**NYSHRL - GENDER DISCRIMINATION**

177. Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** repeats and realleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs 1 through 160 inclusive, with the same force and effect as though more fully set forth at length herein.

178. As a consequence of Defendants **BENJAMIN WEY's** and **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP's** and **FNL MEDIA LLC's** gender discrimination, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** has been and continues to be deprived of equal treatment, including: equal pay for commensurate work; equal opportunities for promotion, advancement, increased compensation, and continued employment; and equal standards of conduct, because of her gender.

~~179. The aforesaid discriminatory acts by Defendants **BENJAMIN WEY** and **NYG**~~  
**CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP and FNL MEDIA LLC**, its officers, directors, supervisors, managers and/or employees, perpetrated against Plaintiff because of her

gender, violated Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**'s rights as provided under The New York State Human Rights Law, Article 15 of the New York Executive Law ("NYSHRL"), 15 N.Y. Exec. Law Section 290, et. seq.

180. As a consequence of Defendants' gender discrimination during Plaintiff's employment with Defendant **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC**, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** has sustained and continues to sustain physical injury, conscious pain and suffering, physical injury, great mental distress, shock, fright and humiliation. In addition, Plaintiff has incurred and continues to incur economic loss.

181. As a consequence of the foregoing misconduct of Defendants **BENJAMIN WEY** and **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC**, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** is entitled to damages under 15 N.Y. Exec. Law Section 297(4)(c) in the amount of TWENTY-FIVE MILLION (\$25,000,000.00) DOLLARS.

**AS AND FOR A SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION**  
**NYCHRL - GENDER DISCRIMINATION**

182. Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** repeats and realleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs 1 through 160 inclusive, with the same force and effect as though more fully set forth at length herein.

183. As a consequence of Defendants **BENJAMIN WEY**'s and **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP**'s and **FNL MEDIA LLC** and **FNL MEDIA LLC**'s gender discrimination, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** has been and continues to be deprived of equal ~~treatment, including; equal pay for commensurate work; equal opportunities for promotion,~~ advancement, increased compensation, and continued employment; and equal standards of conduct, because of her gender.

184. The aforesaid discriminatory acts by Defendants **BENJAMIN WEY** and **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC**, its officers, directors, supervisors, managers and/or employees, perpetrated against Plaintiff because of her gender, violated Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**'s rights as provided under New York City Human Rights Law Title 8 ("NYCHRL"), et. seq.

185. As a consequence of Defendants' gender discrimination during Plaintiff's employment with Defendant **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC**, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** has sustained and continues to sustain physical injury, conscious pain and suffering, physical injury, great mental distress, shock, fright and humiliation. In addition, Plaintiff has incurred and continues to incur economic loss.

186. As a consequence of the foregoing misconduct of Defendants **BENJAMIN WEY** and **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC**, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** is entitled to compensatory damages and punitive damages in the sum prescribed by NYC Human Rights Law Title 8, et. seq., i.e., compensatory damages of TWENTY-FIVE MILLION (\$25,000,000.00 ) DOLLARS and punitive damages of FIFTY MILLION (\$50,000,000.00) DOLLARS, as well as attorneys' fees.

**AS AND FOR A SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION**  
**NYSHRL - RETALIATION**

187. Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** repeats and realleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs 1 through 160 inclusive, with the same force and effect as though more fully set forth at length herein.

188. The aforesaid acts of intentional retaliation against Plaintiff by Defendants **BENJAMIN WEY** and **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC**, its officers, directors, supervisors, managers and/or employees, violated Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**'s rights as provided under New York State Human Rights Law - Executive Law Section 290 et. seq.

189. As a consequence of Defendant's retaliation against Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** during her employment with Defendant **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC**, Plaintiff has sustained and continues to sustain conscious pain and suffering, great mental distress and humiliation, has incurred and continues to incur monetary loss, and has been subjected to adverse employment actions, including the termination of her employment and including Defendants' ongoing interference with Plaintiff's ability to obtain any prospective professional employment.

190. As a consequence of the foregoing misconduct of Defendants **BENJAMIN WEY** and **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC**, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** is entitled to damages under 15 N.Y. Exec. Law Section 297(4)(c) in the amount of TWENTY-FIVE MILLION (\$25,000,000.00) DOLLARS.

**AS AND FOR AN EIGHTH CAUSE OF ACTION**  
**NYCHRL -RETALIATION**

191. Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** repeats and realleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs 1 through 160 inclusive, with the same force and effect as though more fully set forth at length herein.

192. The aforesaid acts of intentional retaliation against Plaintiff by Defendants **BENJAMIN WEY** and **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA**

**LLC**, its officers, directors, supervisors, managers and/or employees, violated Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**'s rights as provided under New York City Human Rights Law Title 8 ("NYCHRL"), et. seq.

193. As a consequence of Defendants' retaliation against Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** while she was an employee of Defendants **BENJAMIN WEY** and **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC** and after her termination, Plaintiff has sustained and continues to sustain conscious pain and suffering, great mental distress and humiliation, has incurred and continues to incur monetary loss, and has been subjected to adverse employment actions, including the termination of her employment and including Defendants' ongoing interference with Plaintiff's ability to obtain any prospective professional employment .

194. As a consequence of the foregoing misconduct of Defendants **BENJAMIN WEY** and **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC**, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** has been damaged and is entitled to compensatory damages and punitive damages in the sum prescribed by NYC Human Rights Law Title 8, et. seq., i.e., \ compensatory damages of TWENTY-FIVE MILLION (\$25,000,000.00 ) DOLLARS and punitive damages of FIFTY MILLION (\$50,000,000.00) DOLLARS, as well as attorneys' fees.

195. In addition, as a consequence of the foregoing misconduct of Defendants **BENJAMIN WEY** and **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC**, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** has been damaged and is without adequate remedy at law, rendering injunctive and other equitable relief appropriate.

196. Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** will suffer irreparable harm if the Court does not render the injunctive relief set forth herein, i.e., if Defendants **BENJAMIN WEY** and **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC** are not ordered to

immediately cease their campaign of retaliation against Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**, including for Defendants to: immediately cease their campaign of harassment and intimidation against Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**; immediately cease their attempts to intimidate and threaten potential witnesses in this litigation; immediately cease their defamatory postings, messages, emails, blogs and articles regarding Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**; immediately cease using Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**'s name without her permission to create a domain and blog (i.e., "cybersquatting"); and immediately retract and remove from the internet the defamatory "articles" concerning Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** that they have written, edited, published, posted and/or disseminated on the internet.

197. Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** demands injunctive and equitable relief, and further, that Defendants **BENJAMIN WEY** and **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC** be ordered to: (1) cease and desist from further retaliating against Plaintiff for complaining about Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY**'s *quid pro quo* sexual harassment, the sexually hostile work environment he created at **NYGG** and **FNL MEDIA**, gender discrimination, and retaliation; and (2) institute, at Defendants' own cost, measures to restore Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**'s good reputation.

198. As a consequence of the misconduct by Defendants **BENJAMIN WEY** and **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC**, as alleged herein, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** has sustained and continues to sustain injuries such that the appropriate remedy is this Court's order of final injunctive relief as prayed herein, or other appropriate equitable remedy as it may see fit.

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**AS AND FOR A NINTH CAUSE OF ACTION**  
**ASSAULT**

199. Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** repeats and realleges each and every allegation contained

in paragraphs 1 through 160 inclusive, with the same force and effect as though more fully set forth at length herein.

200. Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER **BENJAMIN WEY**, in perpetrating the above described conduct, placed Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** in apprehension and fear of unwanted, unwarranted, unsolicited physical touching of her person by him in a manner that was harmful and offensive to Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** and would be harmful and offensive to any reasonable person.

201. In so doing, Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER **BENJAMIN WEY** acted within the course and scope of his duties as the CEO/PUBLISHER, i.e., the highest-ranking officer, executive, manager, supervisor and employee of Defendant **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC**. Accordingly, Defendant **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** is responsible for Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER **BENJAMIN WEY**'s misconduct under the theory of respondeat superior.

202. As a consequence of the conduct of Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER **BENJAMIN WEY** and Defendant **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a FNL MEDIA LLC**, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** has incurred physical and psychological trauma and damage, has suffered great humiliation, loss of esteem, mental anguish and suffering, and has sustained damage in the sum of TWENTY-FIVE MILLION (\$25,000,000.00) DOLLARS compensatory damages and punitive damages in the amount of FIFTY MILLION (\$50,000,000.00) DOLLARS.

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**AS AND FOR A TENTH CAUSE OF ACTION**  
**BATTERY**

203. Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** repeats and realleges each and every allegation contained

in paragraphs 1 through 160 inclusive, with the same force and effect as though more fully set forth at length herein.

204. Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER **BENJAMIN WEY**, in perpetrating the above-described non-consensual assaults, including his kissing, fondling, grabbing, pulling, groping, molesting and/or forcing sexual relations upon Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**, did, without consent, touch Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** in a manner that was both harmful and offensive to Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** and in a manner that any reasonable person would similarly find harmful and offensive.

205. In so doing, Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER **BENJAMIN WEY** acted within the course and scope of his duties as duties as the CEO/PUBLISHER, i.e., the highest-ranking officer, executive, manager, supervisor and employee of Defendant **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC**. Accordingly, Defendant **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC** are responsible for Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER **BENJAMIN WEY**'s misconduct under the theory of respondeat superior.

206. As a consequence of the conduct of Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER **BENJAMIN WEY** and Defendant **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and Defendant **FNL MEDIA LLC**, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** has incurred physical and psychological trauma and damage, has suffered great humiliation, loss of esteem, mental anguish and suffering, and has sustained damage in the sum of TWENTY-FIVE MILLION (\$25,000,000.00) DOLLARS compensatory damages and punitive damages in the amount of FIFTY MILLION (\$50,000,000.00) DOLLARS.

**AS AND FOR AN ELEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION**  
**INTENTIONAL INFLICTION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS**

207. Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** repeats and realleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs 1 through 160 inclusive, with the same force and effect as though more fully set forth at length herein.

208. As a consequence of Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER **BENJAMIN WEY**'s wholly unlawful, intentional, reckless and negligent conduct, Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER **BENJAMIN WEY** intentionally inflicted emotional distress upon Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**.

209. Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER **BENJAMIN WEY**, through a pattern of extreme and outrageous conduct, which was beyond all possible bounds of decency, and which may be regarded as atrocious and utterly intolerable within a civilized society, molested, assaulted, battered, harassed, humiliated, degraded, disparaged, defamed and retaliated against Plaintiff.

210. In so doing, Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER **BENJAMIN WEY** acted within the course and scope of his duties as Chief Executive Officer, i.e., the highest-ranking officer, executive, manager, supervisor and employee of Defendant **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC**. Accordingly, Defendant **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and Defendant **FNL MEDIA LLC** are responsible for Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER **BENJAMIN WEY**'s misconduct under the theory of respondeat superior.

211. As a consequence of Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER **BENJAMIN WEY**'s intentional infliction of emotional distress upon Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**, Plaintiff sustained conscious pain and suffering, Plaintiff's health was impaired, and Plaintiff suffered great mental distress, shock, fright and humiliation.

212. As a consequence of the conduct of Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER **BENJAMIN WEY** and Defendant **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and Defendant **FNL MEDIA LLC**, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** has incurred physical and psychological trauma and damage, has suffered great humiliation, loss of esteem, mental anguish and suffering, and has sustained damage in the sum of TWENTY-FIVE MILLION (\$25,000,000.00) DOLLARS compensatory damages and punitive damages in the amount of FIFTY MILLION (\$50,000,000.00) DOLLARS.

**AS AND FOR A TWELFH CAUSE OF ACTION**  
**DEFAMATION/SLANDER**

213. Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** repeats and realleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs 1 through 160 inclusive, with the same force and effect as though more fully set forth at length herein.

214. The aforementioned, patently false statements concerning Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** made by Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER **BENJAMIN WEY** and Defendant **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and Defendant **FNL MEDIA LLC**, and broadcast to Defendant **NYGG**'s business contacts, to the CEO/PUBLISHER of Manpower Sweden, Inc., to the U.S. State Department, to Plaintiff's former employers and to Plaintiff's family and friends, as well as to the public at large, exposed Plaintiff to public hatred, shame, contempt, ridicule, ostracism, degradation and/or disgrace, induced an evil opinion of Plaintiff in the minds of right-thinking persons, and/or deprived Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** of confidence and friendly intercourse in society.

215. The aforesaid acts of intentional defamation perpetrated by Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER **BENJAMIN WEY** and Defendant **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL**

**GROUP** and Defendant **FNL MEDIA LLC** violated the privacy rights of Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**, a private citizen. Said statements not only disparaged Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** and directly attacked her competence, credibility and reputation as a professional, but also impugned her basic integrity and/or creditworthiness as a law-abiding, peaceful, sober, non-promiscuous, healthy human being.

216. As a consequence of the defamatory statements made by Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER **BENJAMIN WEY** and Defendant **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and Defendant **FNL MEDIA LLC**, including written statements made via emails, text message, Facebook posts and blog messages on Defendants' internet magazine "The Blot," Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** has suffered great humiliation, loss of esteem, mental anguish and suffering, and loss of reputation, and has sustained economic loss.

217. As a consequence of the conduct of Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER **BENJAMIN WEY** and Defendant **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and Defendant **FNL MEDIA LLC**, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** has incurred psychological trauma and damage, has suffered great humiliation, loss of esteem, mental anguish and suffering, and has sustained economic damage, in the sum of TWENTY-FIVE MILLION (\$25,000,000.00) DOLLARS compensatory damages and punitive damages in the amount of FIFTY MILLION (\$50,000,000.00) DOLLARS.

**AS AND FOR A THIRTEENTH CAUSE OF ACTION**  
**BREACH OF CONTRACT**

218. Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** repeats and realleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs 1 through 160 inclusive, with the same force and effect as though more fully set forth at length herein.

219. On or about August 28, 2014, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** and Defendants **NYGG**, **FNL MEDIA** and **BENJAMIN WEY** reached an Agreement intended to stop Defendant **BENJAMIN WEY**'s ongoing harassment of Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** and her family, friends and lawyers. (*See attached* Ex. A, Agreement.)

220. By the terms of this Agreement, Defendants were to stop posting and remove all negative postings concerning Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** and her lawyers, as well as articles concerning prospective witnesses in this case. (Ex. A, Agreement at par. 3a.)

221. By the terms of this Agreement, Defendant **WEY** was required to pay Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** \$10,000 for every violation of paragraph 3a of the Agreement. (Ex. A, Agreement at par. 7.)

222. On or about September 17, 2014, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** discovered that Defendants **NYGG**, **FNL MEDIA** and **BENJAMIN WEY** had violated paragraph 3a of the Agreement four times by continuing to publish offensive, defamatory and retaliatory articles.

223. On or about September 17, 2014, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** notified Defendants **NYGG**, **FNL MEDIA** and **BENJAMIN WEY** of their breach of the Agreement and demanded payment of liquidated damages.

224. Defendants refused to pay the \$40,000 liquidated damages then owed.

225. Since on or about September 17, 2014, Defendants **NYGG**, **FNL MEDIA** and **BENJAMIN WEY** have continued to repeatedly violate the Agreement by publishing *at least* four more highly offensive, defamatory, threatening and retaliator articles to date.

226. Since on or about September 17, 2014, Defendants **NYGG**, **FNL MEDIA** and **BENJAMIN WEY** have repeatedly violated the Agreement by refusing to pay additional liquidated damages of *at least* \$80,000 more.

227. As a consequence of the conduct of Defendant CEO/PUBLISHER **BENJAMIN WEY** and Defendant **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and Defendant **FNL MEDIA LLC**, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** has incurred economic damages in an amount to be determined at trial, but in an amount not less than One Hundred Twenty Thousand (\$120,000.00) DOLLARS.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** demands judgment against Defendants **BENJAMIN WEY** and **NYG CAPITAL LLC D/B/A NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC** in the First Cause of Action in the amount of TWENTY-FIVE MILLION (\$25,000,000.00) DOLLARS; Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** demands judgment against Defendants **BENJAMIN WEY** and **NYG CAPITAL LLC D/B/A NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC** in the Second Cause of Action in the amount of SEVENTY-FIVE MILLION (\$75,000,000.00) DOLLARS; Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** demands judgment against Defendants **BENJAMIN WEY** and **NYG CAPITAL LLC D/B/A NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a FNL MEDIA LLC** in the Third Cause of Action in the amount of TWENTY-FIVE MILLION (\$25,000,000.00) DOLLARS; Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** demands judgment against Defendants **BENJAMIN WEY** and **NYG CAPITAL LLC D/B/A NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC** in the Fourth Cause of Action in the amount of SEVENTY-FIVE MILLION (\$75,000,000.00) DOLLARS; Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** demands judgment against Defendants **BENJAMIN WEY** and **NYG CAPITAL LLC D/B/A NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **NYG CAPITAL LLC d/b/a FNL MEDIA LLC** in the Fifth Cause of Action in the amount of TWENTY-FIVE MILLION (\$25,000,000.00) DOLLARS; Plaintiff **HANNA**

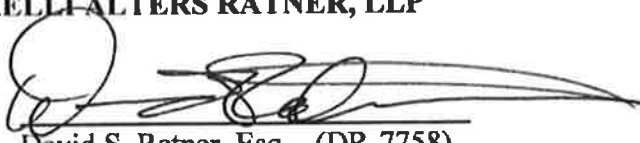
**BOUVENG** demands judgment against Defendants **BENJAMIN WEY** and **NYG CAPITAL LLC D/B/A NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC** in the Sixth Cause of Action in the amount of SEVENTY-FIVE MILLION (\$75,000,000.00) DOLLARS; Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** demands judgment against Defendants **BENJAMIN WEY** and **NYG CAPITAL LLC D/B/A NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC** in the Seventh Cause of Action in the amount of TWENTY-FIVE MILLION (\$25,000,000.00) DOLLARS; Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** demands judgment against Defendants **BENJAMIN WEY** and **NYG CAPITAL LLC D/B/A NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC** in the Eighth Cause of Action in the amount of SEVENTY-FIVE MILLION (\$75,000,000.00) DOLLARS and further seeks Injunctive Relief as set forth therein; Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** demands judgment against Defendants **BENJAMIN WEY** and **NYG CAPITAL LLC D/B/A NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC** in the Ninth Cause of Action in the amount of SEVENTY-FIVE MILLION (\$75,000,000.00) DOLLARS; Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** demands judgment against Defendants **BENJAMIN WEY** and **NYG CAPITAL LLC D/B/A NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC** in the Tenth Cause of Action in the amount of SEVENTY-FIVE MILLION (\$75,000,000.00) DOLLARS; Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** demands judgment against Defendants **BENJAMIN WEY** and **NYG CAPITAL LLC D/B/A NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC** in the Eleventh Cause of Action in the amount of SEVENTY-FIVE MILLION (\$75,000,000.00) DOLLARS; Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG** demands judgment against Defendants **BENJAMIN WEY** and **NYG CAPITAL LLC D/B/A NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC** in the Twelfth Cause of Action in the amount of SEVENTY-FIVE MILLION (\$75,000,000.00) DOLLARS; and Plaintiff **HANNA BOUVENG**

demands judgment against Defendants **BENJAMIN WEY** and **NYG CAPITAL LLC D/B/A NEW YORK GLOBAL GROUP** and **FNL MEDIA LLC** in the Thirteenth Cause of Action in the amount of ONE HUNDRED TWENTY THOUSAND (\$80,000.00) DOLLARS, all together with the costs and disbursements of this action, including attorneys' fees, plus interest, and for any other relief which this Court deems just and proper.

Dated: New York, New York  
October 24, 2014

**MORELLI ALTERS RATNER, LLP**

By:



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